FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

A military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that Iranian forces launched the third phase of the Karbala 5 offensive 18-19 January, stating that Revolution Guards advanced 1 km west of the Jasim River, which joins the Shatt al Arab 10 km east of Basra. IRNA claimed that Iraqi losses in Karbala 5 rose to 31,500 casualties by 20 January with 47 planes downed. Iranian forces had earlier captured three islands in the Shatt al Arab, bringing them to the outskirts of the Iraqi port of Abu al-Khasib, according to IRNA.

Iraq denied Iran's claims in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserting that the Iraqi III Army Corps withstood an assault by 30-40,000 Guards and "harvested" successive waves of attackers. An Iraqi commander cited by INA 20 January likewise dismissed Iran's "baseless claims and cheap lies" about advancing toward Basra.

The fighting along the southern battlefront was accompanied by further attacks on cities, including Tehran and Baghdad. An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses stated that Ayatollah Khomeyni's headquarters was the target of a 17 January raid on the Iranian capital. Tehran radio acknowledged that an Iraqi plane penetrated Tehran airspace and bombed a residential area, killing three people. Over 360 Iranian civilians were killed in Iraqi strikes on other Iranian cities 17-20 January and hundreds more were injured, according to IRNA reports. The heaviest casualties were in Sanandaj, Kordestan Province, where 235 were killed.

As for attacks on Iraq, IRNA reported that Iran fired missiles at Baghdad 16 and 20 January. Iraqi statements carried by Voice of the Masses said the attacks caused civilian casualties. Iranian artillery and air attacks on Basra and other Iraqi areas 16-18 January killed 39 Iraqis and wounded 138, according to communiques broadcast by the radio.

Afghanistan

Leaders of the seven main Afghan rebel groups meeting in Islamabad 17 January vowed to continue their armed resistance against the Kabul regime and called for the creation of an interim mujahidin government in Afghanistan, XINHUA reported. The rebel leaders, who dismissed the DRA's cease-fire proposal as "empty overtures," agreed to set up a commission to meet 1 February to draft the laws and regulations of the interim government, AFP noted. In other developments, Karachi radio reported the bombing of mujahidin positions in Nangarhar and Paktia Provinces 16 January. On the same day, mujahidin in Qandahar Province damaged a tank and killed its crew, the radio reported.

Pakistan

Soviet Consultations — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Kovalev, who is visiting Islamabad, held high-level official talks with Pakistani officials on Afghanistan, Karachi radio reported. The Soviet news agency TASS said the consultations were being conducted "in an atmosphere of frankness and a desire for mutual understanding."

Border Buildup — Pakistan has reportedly mobilized hundreds of troops and more than 10,000 "offensive reserves" along its border with India, according to PTI reports cited by AFP 18 January. A spokesman for the Pakistani mission in New Delhi refused comment, the AFP report said. Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said the concentration of Pakistani troops at the border is causing "tremendous concern," Delhi radio reported. Speaking at a 20 January press conference in New Delhi, Gandhi said Pakistani forces had been engaged in maneuvers at the border but remained at the frontline position instead of withdrawing at the end of the exercises.

Lebanon

"Observers" expect that two U.S. hostages will be released following the "progress" made by Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 20 January. Nevertheless, an FRG businessman was kidnapped in Beirut 17 January, DPA reported, disclosing that the Shi'ite group Hizballah has demanded the release of a Lebanese held in West Germany in exchange for the businessman. Meanwhile, Waite's departure was delayed by an outbreak of street fighting in West Beirut, AFP noted. The clashes followed an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Sidon-based Nasirite Popular Organization, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

In another development, Israeli military sources cited by Jerusalem radio denied Lebanese reports that Israeli gunboats shelled Palestinian targets near Sidon 19 January. The Voice of Lebanon cited reports that six people were wounded in a bombardment by six Israeli gunboats.

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Reportage on Upcoming Islamic Summit Conference

Iran To Attend

LD201041 Kuwait KUNA in English 0923 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 20 (KUNA) — An Iranian delegation will shortly arrive in Kuwait to attend the fifth Islamic Summit, due here on January 26th, Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin was Tuesday quoted by the press as saying.

The official, in a statement carried by *Al-Qabas* newspaper today, added, though, that the level of Iranian representation at the Kuwait summit is not clear yet.

Al-Shahin further announced that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn would lead his country's delegation to the summit.

In his press conference held yesterday, head of the higher preparatory committee for the summit, Public Works and Housing Minister 'Abd al-Rahman al-Huti, confirmed that Kuwait has received no formal apology from any of the 46 member states of the organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) for absenting itself from the gathering.

According to Al-Huti, 27 Moslem heads of state will come to Kuwait for the summit, opening next Monday.

Kuwaiti Officials' News Conference

LD191457 Kuwait KUNA in English 1250 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 19 (KUNA) — Public Works Minister and Head of the Higher Preparatory Committee for the fifth Islamic summit, 'Abd al-Rahman al-Huti Monday affirmed that Kuwait did not receive any official apology from any OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] member-country for not attending the summit.

In a press conference held at the conference center Al-Huti said that Kuwait received the approval of 27 heads of state to attend the summit, scheduled to convene here on January 26.

He said that 1500 delegates representing 35 countries, will be attending.

He noted the secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference Sharaf al-Din Pirzada came to Kuwait earlier and met with h.h. the amir, h.h. the crown prince and premier and also met with Deputy Premier and Foreign minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, with whom he discussed the Islamic summit's agenda.

The Kuwaiti official stressed that the summit will be held at its fixed date and Kuwait will continue its efforts, even after the conclusion of the summit, to achieve and boost Islamic solidarity.

Meanwhile, head of the coordination committee Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, who is also foreign undersecretary, said that the summit's agenda is divided to three parts: political issues, economic and financial topics, and cultural and social matters.

Palestine and the Middle East conflict, the Gulf war and Afghanistan are the key political issues the Islamic summit is scheduled to tackle, Al-Shahin said.

He noted that though such international gathering would not necessarily provide solutions for such flaming conflicts, they still can allow sideline bilateral contacts that help alleviate international tensions and pave the way for a potential solution.

On Afghanistan, Al-Shahin said the Islamic summit will receive a delegation representing the mujahideen.

He pointed out that there will be other political topics submitted by member states to be discussed during the summit.

Kuwait, on its part, has submitted to the conference a proposal on establishing an Islamic court of justice, which was called for by h.h. the amir of Kuwait during the OIC summit in Ta'if, Saudi Arabia in 1981.

He said this issue is finalised and the summit conference will only amend its charter for an endorsement.

Meanwhile, the minsiter, Al-Huti, remarked that the court would not come into being before another IOC summit in three-years time.

Al-Shahin said international terrorism is also one of the most important issues to Kuwait, which raised the problem at the OIC foreign ministers conference in Sanaa.

He said a pertinent draft resolution had been drawn up and hoped that it will be endorsed, "particularly that terrorism is the concern of many international forums."

He said that the draft resolution on terrorism stresses the need to differentiate between terrorism as a criminal method and national struggle to win legitimate rights.

"Kuwait as a victim of terrorism can speak up honestly and accuratly on the subject," he stressed.

The Kuwaiti official said that Moslems' human rights will be one of the subjects of the agenda, noting that no country submitted this issues but it was raised by the OIC Secretariat General.

Kuwait hosted the first conference for experts in this field and h.h the amir had a saying on this issue, which was named Kuwait's document, Al-Shahin recalled and hoped that the OIC leaders endorse this document.

Al-Shahin said that Kuwait will try to play an effective role through its OIC membership and not only through its presidency of the summit.

He said OIC experts, who will be meeting on January 21 would sift through the agenda as to concentrate on the key topics.

OIC foreign ministers will meet one day later for the same task, he added.

Head of the information committee Ridha al-Feili [name as received] said the committee in cooperation with concerned parties established a press center that provides all facilities to journalists.

He pointed out that *Kuwait News Agency*, radio and television will be the main source of information, noting that the television will transmit the event via satellite in several languages.

He said the information committee also published research papers on the occasion and invited senior writers, thinkers and intellectuals of the Islamic world to discuss the Islamic religion and future challenges.

He added that the committee, in cooperation with the OIC, also published a directory that includes major information on the Islamic states besides a book on Islamic solidarity, published by KUNA.

A directory on the conferences center was also issued by the committee in Arabic, English and French.

Al-Feili pointed out that Islamic conference radio broadcast will be on the air seven hours daily and the Gulf Cooperation Council radio will transmit its programmes for three hours besides a one hour French language broadcast.

He said as of tomorrow the radio will transmit programmes in all the Islamic world's languages.

He added that the television will prepare a news broadcast for 30 minutes to 46 Islamic countries and any other international station.

He noted that one hour will be added to the television broadcast, starting from January 26, to cover the summit's activities. He went on saying that there are press offices for each member country to host the official press teams, which increased by 15 percent.

Al-Feili said taht 100 figures and 200 media men from the various parts of the world were invited on their own expenses, and that the number of journalists and newsmen who will cover the summit was expected to reach between 650 and 700.

Following Al-Feili's briefing, deputy chairman of the security committee Brig. Ahmad al-Rujaib [name as received] talked about the security plan for the conference, noting that it covers the conference center and Kuwait as a whole.

Responding to a question by KUNA board chairman, Director General Barges Hmoud al-Barges [name as received], about reservations voiced by some Islamic countries on Egypt's participation in the summit, Minister Al-Huti said:

"We have to realize that the summit brings together Islamic nations and, as such, any resolution on any member states lies with the other participants.

"This applies to all, be it Arab, Asian or African countries," he added.

On Afghanistan, Al-Barges queried why the Afghan Government had not been invited to the summit, so long as the opposition mujahideen were asked to attend. Al-Shahin, in an answer, seconded a remark by Al-Barges that the Afghan situation has developed and hoped that parties to the Afghan problem would provide the Islamic summit with fresh information on the question.

The foreign undersecretary added that the OIC members would formulate their approach to the Afghanistan problem in light of such new develpoments.

Al-Shahin noted that though Afghanistan's OIC membership had been suspended, the issue still lies with the OIC and that any summit resolution on the question would be respected by the host country, Kuwait.

He, however, recalled that Kuwait has maintained diplomatic ties with Afghanistan which has an embassy in the country.

When asked by Al-Barges why the Eritrean problem was not to be raised, Al-Shahin said the question had been discussed during the third OIC summit and could still be brought up in the forthcoming summit.

Al-Huti, responding to a question, said Kuwait has always adopted an attitude supportive of Arab and Islamic solidarity and encouraged any Arab unanimous accord.

He added that before inviting the OIC 46 members to the summit, Kuwait had made contacts with the countries involved to secure a measure of agreement between them on key issues that will be raised at the summit.

Kuwait to Chair Session

LD201112 Kuwait KUNA in English 0929 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 20 (KUNA) — An expert committee of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) will hold its meeting here Wednesday.

Sources at the OIC General Secretariat told KUNA that Kuwait's foreign undersecretary and head of coordination committee with the OIC general secretary, Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, will take over from the Moroccan representative as the meeting chairman. Morocco has chaired the previous OIC session.

The sources said the committee will reshuffle the agenda items with an eye on priorities before referring it to the Islamic foreign ministers' meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Director of the Islamic and Arab Department at the Moroccan Foreign Ministry Mohamed al-Tazi headed the committee's previous session.

KUNA learnt that Kuwait's delegation to the meeting will include senior officials at the Foreign Ministry.

ICO Secretary General Arrives

LD192038 Kuwait KUNA in English 1713 GMT
19 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 19 (KUNA) — Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Sharaf Al-Din Pirzada, arrived here this evening at the head of an OIC delegation.

Pirzada was received by Undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry Sulayman Majid al-Shahin and head of the International Division at the Foreign Ministry Political Department 'Abd 'Aziz al-Sharek [name and title as received].

Pirzada will take part in the meetings of Islamic Foreign Ministers next Thursday prior to the summit Jan 26.

On Iran's attendance of the conference, Pirzada said "So far, Iran has not shown any inclination about participating in the conference and I once again appeal to the Iranian leaders to review and reconsider their position."

Pirzada believes the conference will be a "great success" and he has hopes of great expectations from heads of states and governments participating in the conference and asked them to work together with the sense of responsibility for the interest of the Islamic world.

The OIC secretary general praised Kuwait's preparations for the conference saying "I would like to congratulate the Kuwaiti authorities, particularly his highness the amir."

Pirzada said most countries participating in the conference will be represented by high-level delegations.

According to OIC officials, the Palestinian issue, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iraqi-Iranian war and terrorism will be on top of the summit's agenda, in addition to issues of the Islamic court of justice and economic and technological topics.

He hopes that Islamic leaders will show unity and solidarity for the sake of the conference's success.

Summit, 'Small' Fires at Kuwait Oil Center Linked

NC201027 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT
20 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait City, Jan 20 (AFP) — Small fires, thought to be arson, broke out late Monday at the Al-Mukawa Oil Complex south of here, officials said on Tuesday.

The fires, which fire services took two hours to bring under control, erupted in an oil well, in a terminal and a plant north of Al-Mukawa, the head of the fire service said.

The fires, thought to have been started deliberately, came as Arab officials were gathering for the fifth Islamic summit which opens here Monday.

Three extremist organizations, including the Lebanon-based Islamic Jihad have issued threats to Kuwait over the summit.

The Islamic Revolutionary Movement has threatened to "turn Kuwait into a tomb for most Islamic leaders at the summit."

On Monday, Kuwaiti authorities ordered flights to and from Beirut suspended until January 30. Airport sources said this was part of security measures for the summit.

In June last year, four fires were started simultaneously at Mina' al-Ahmadi oil complex some 30 kms (20 miles) from Kuwait City. Authorities later said the fires were starated by explosives and arrested several people.

Arab League Council To Meet on Camps War 25 Jan

LD201012 Kuwait KUNA in English 0842 GMT
20 Jan 87

[By Jassem Mattar]

[Text] Tunis, Jan 20 (KUNA) — A senior league official Tuesday hoped that the upcoming Kuwait fifth Islamic summit would throw its full weight and work energetically for drawing up an action programme that would eventually bring the two Gulf belligerents to the negotiating table.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, Arab League Assistant Secretary for Political Affairs Adnan Omran disclosed that an emergency Arab League Council session, to discuss report of the seven-man Arab mediation committee assigned to end the camps war in Lebanon, would be held in Kuwait on January 25th.

The official hoped that the council session, held on the sidelines of the fifth Islamic summit, would represent a positive step and declare acceptance of all sides of the points presented by the mediation committee.

In reply to questions on the negative impact of recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war, Omran hoped the developments would not adversely influence the successful outcome of the summit and cited available information on the determination of all Islamic states to attend the conference, at the highest level.

Underlining futility of war between the two neighbouring Moslem states, he hoped the summit would throw its entire weight and work energetically for reaching an action programme and effective means to bring the two warring sides to the negotiating table and hence save Moslem blood.

The League functioning [as received] indicated significance of holding the summit in Kuwait and at this particular time when Arab and Moslem causes are transcending a crucial stage, characterized by Israeli ferocious attacks in occupied Arab lands and more stringent policies than any time before.

Omran remarked that Kuwait's proximity from the scene of the war, whose continuation constitutes a defiance of the Moslem nation's feelings, and Kuwait's wise and mediatory role would undoubtedly help the summit in halting the Iraq-Iran war and directing all energies towards facing the Zionist danger.

The official revealed that the League council will hold an emergency session in Kuwait on the 25th of this month to consider the report of the seven-man committee, assigned to mediate an end for the camps war in Lebanon.

The committee has recently visited Damascus and Beirut for the purpose and talked with concerned Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian officials on means to halt the five-month-long clashes between Lebanese Amal militias and Palestinian defenders of refugee camps in Beirut and south Lebanon.

"We are aware of the complexities of the issue", Omran concluded, "yet we hope for a positive step and an acceptance by all parties of the points submitted by the committee".

'Arafat Delivers Speech at Rally in Baghdad

JN152031 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has greeted the steadfastness of the heroic Palestinians who defend the brave camps of challenge in Lebanon and who confront the ugliest destructive plot of the Zionist enemy, the Damascus regime, and the Amal Movement — a plot to annihilate the temporary Palestinian presence in Lebanon, to fragment Lebanon and its people, and to create sectarian cantons. He indicated that this serves as a prelude to balkanize the whole Arab region. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar also greeted the steadfastness of our Palestinian masses in the occupied homeland, their heroic confrontation of the Zionist occupation and its oppressive practices, and their determination to continue the free national march under the PLO flag and leadership so that the Palestinian people will acquire their entire legitimate rights — foremost of which are their right to return home, to self-determination, and to establish an independent state. This was reported in the speech delivered by brother leader Abu 'Ammar today at the solidarity rally held in Baghdad by the General Secretariat of the General Union for Palestinian Workers in assoication with the Iraqi Trade Federation.

In his speech, brother leader Abu 'Ammar condemned the continuation of the Iranian aggression against Iraq, which is designed to occupy its land and harm its sovereignty. He also greeted the courage of the Iraqi Army, its heroic confrontation of these aggressive attacks, its epic steadfastness, and the victories attained in defense of Iraq and the eastern gate of the Arab nation. Leader of the revolution Brother Abu 'Ammar also called for immediate measures to stand by Iraq, to look for means to terminate the Iraq-Iran war and to solve it through peaceful channels. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar stressed that what is taking place against Iraq, against the Palestinian revolution, and against the Palestinians in Lebanon and the occupied homeland is intended to oppress the spirit of struggle, steadfastness, and heroism in this nation. It is also designed to prevent this nation from attaining unity and progress, and from restoring its historical role which helps create a world dominated by love, benevolence, and peace. Leader of the revolution brother Abu 'Ammar stressed that our people and revolution will attain victory. The Iraqi Army and people will also attain victory. This land will continue to be Arab. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar said: Despite all the difficulties we are facing and despite the aggression, our enemies will suffer defeat while we will enjoy victory. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Concludes Visit

JN191426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1358 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Baghdad today at the end of a visit to Iraq that lasted several days.

During his visit Yasir 'Arafat met with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

PLO's Salah Khalaf Urges Support for Iraq

JN191713 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Tunis, 19 Jan (INA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf has emphasized the need to develop an Islamic stand that compels the Iranian regime to end its aggression and to prevent it from realizing its ambitions in Arab territory.

In a statement to INA in Tunis, he stressed that it is important that all the Arab and Muslim states participating in the Islamic summit scheduled to be held in Kuwait on 26 January declare a practical stand on the war commensurate with the gravity of that war and the threat it poses. He said the desired Arab and Muslim stand is support for Iraq and condemnation of the Iranian regime, its plots, and its coordination with the Zionist entity to realize ambitions for aggression and expansion.

Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] noted that the aggression is aimed against the Arab nation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arab Gulf, and warned that anyone who imagines he is not affected by the aggression is greatly mistaken.

He said that the current threats to the Arab nation are the result of a plot by imperialist and Zionist circles in conjunction with the Iranian regime, which has ambitions in Arab territory.

Salah Khalaf linked the escalation of the attacks on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon with the escalation of the aggression against Iraq, saying that such a link reflects that there is one plot aimed at maintaining tension in the area and keeping the conflict going so as to weaken the area countries and control them.

He said that the Israeli and U.S. arms supplies to Iran were one of the main reasons that prompted Iran to continue its aggression. He recalled that the Zionist entity coordinated with the Iranian regime in striking at the Iraqi nuclear reactor used for peaceful purposes, and asserted that the attack was a clear signal to the

Arabs, who should have realized the gravity of the escalating alliance between the Iranian regime and Israel against Iraq.

Salakh Khalaf asserted that through a joint strategy with the Iranian regime the Zionist entity has drawn up one of the most serious links in the chain of plots, and all the Arab countries must expose and foil this link in the plot by supporting Iraq so as to protect the Arab nation and Arab land.

Abu Iyad emphasized that there can be no Arab neutrality in the war and asserted that neutrality means standing on the aggressor's side and on the side of the Zionist entity.

He stressed that regimes that are Arab only in nationality are doomed to failure and will be severely taken to task by the Arab peoples. He asserted that the Syrian regime, through its support of Iran, has become embroiled in the plot against the Arab nation and cannot extricate itself from it, and that it will pay dearly for its treason when the hour of reckoning comes, for the Syrian people will avenge the Arab blood shed as a result of Syrian regime's treason.

Abu Iyad emphasized that Palestinian unity will be a practical response to the plotting by the Syrian regime, which has constantly sought to split the unity of the Palestinian revolution so as to weaken it.

PLO's Qaddami Praises Talks With Klibi

LD171917 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Tunis, 16 Jan (TAP) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi received Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the PLO Political Department; Jamal al-Surani and Mahmud 'Abbas, members of the PLO Executive Committee; and Hakam Bal'awi, Palestine's [as received] permanent representative at the Arab League, in his office yesterday.

After the meeting, Faruq Qaddumi made a statement in which he expressed, on behalf of the PLO, his gratitude to the Arab ministerial good offices committee co-chaired by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian foreign minister and chairman of the current Arab League session, and by Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, for the efforts it has made. He said: "There is no doubt that such efforts will help halt the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon."

He added: "We have examined with the secretary general the results of the contacts made by the committee in Syria and Lebanon and we have drafted specific clauses with regard to the cease-fire and the lifting of the seige around the Palestinian camps. We hope these efforts will be crowned by total success".

Faruq Qaddumi also indicated that further meetings will be held with the committee to end this crisis [words indistinct] and (?guarantee) for Lebanon its welfare and happiness, while preserving its sovereignty, security, and [words indistinct].

Jordan Accused of Imprisoning PFLP Official

JN171237 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] The PFLP announced today that Jordanian authorities have arrested 'Azmi al-Khawajah, PFLP Political Bureau member and PNC member, last Monday and have put him in prison in Amman. The PFLP says this measure is part of a campaign of persecution and harassment by the Jordanian authorities against Palestinian forces, bodies, and officials who oppose the Jordanian policy of undermining the PLO and creating suspect alternatives. This policy seeks to normalize relations before the Jordanian authorities sign agreements [with Israel] concerning the occupied territories.

Possible Split Reported in Fatah Dissident Group

JN171932 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 16 Jan 87 pp 1, 14

[Text] Amman — *Al-Bayan* has learned that the dissident Fatah group led by Abu al-Za'im [Atallah Muhamad 'Attallah] is currently suffering from sharp differences which might lead to a split in its ranks.

Informed Palestinian sources in Amman said that those wishing to split from Abu al-Za'im's group within the next 2 days intend to return to Fatah and Yasir 'Arafat's leadership.

Algiers Reports Arab People's Congress Session

LD192231 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The proceedings of the third session of the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress ended at El Aurassi Hotel this evening. Details are given by correspondent Abdelkader Keboub.

[Begin Keboub recording] The permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress approved a final communique at the end of 3 days of proceedings at the El Aurassi Hotel. During the meetings all the issues of the basic Arab struggle in its different arenas were reviewed and discussed in detail.

Before covering the major contents of the final communique of the proceedings, it is worth pointing out that the participants in the third session of the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress have sent a cable of thanks to Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN party, hailing the brave pan-Arab role played by Algeria in supporting the struggle of the Arab and African nation and their national and progressive forces. They also expressed their great satisfaction with the support given by Algeria to the struggle of the Saharan people against the attempted annexation and hegemony by the Moroccan regime.

The permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress considers with satisfaction the initiative of President Chadli Bendjedid to call all the factions of the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian national action to hold a demoratic dialogue for regaining PLO unity on national, anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist, and antireactionary bases, with the emphasis on the exclusiveness and the legitimacy of the organization as the representative of the Palestinian people.

The participants also expressed in their cable their satisfaction with the efforts of the Algerian revolution to end the aggression against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and to secure the Palestinian right to struggle against the Zionist occupation, side by side with the Lebanese national forces. The third session of the Arab People's Congress has issued a call for the end of the Palestinian camps war, and another call for the immediate end to the Iraq-Iran war. These are considered among the main points of the final communique of the proceedings, which condemned and denounced the U.S. military and economic threats, measures, and provocations in collusion with the Zionist racist entity against Syria. The participants also condemned the continuous U.S.-NATO threats against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. After condemning the aggressions against the Palestinian camps, the communique called on all Palestinians to strengthen their unity and to comply with the call of President Chadli Bendjedid for an intra-Palestinian dialogue.

After hailing the heroic struggle waged by the Lebanese people and the Lebanese national resistance against the Zionist occupation, it affirmed the support of the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress for the heroic struggle being waged by the Saharan people against the reactionary monarchist regime in Morocco. The call was made for an immediate start to the implementation of the OAU and UN resolutions enabling the Saharan people to exercise their legitimate right to self-determination, freedom, and independence.

The permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress also expressed their great concern with the issues of liberation in Central and Latin America, Africa, and Asia, among which are the struggles of the Sandinist, Salvadoran, Namibian peoples, and that of South Africa, which fights the apartheid regime.

As far as the Chadian issue is concerned, the communique condemned the French intervention and called on the OAU to play its natural role in this field. In this respect, the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress issued a special cable addressed to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, stating that the solution of the Chadian question is the duty of the Chadians first, and of the OAU second. The cable also supported the Algerian initiative with regard to the Chadian conflict, condemning all foreign intervention in this conflict.

On the political side, the congress concerned itself with the study of the Arab and international standpoints and the definition of a future line of action. An important economic document was also approved at the proceedings. It included a reference to an Algerian economic document analyzing the economic situation in light of the world economic crisis. In this respect, the ways and means to face the economic crisis of the Arab countries were discussed.

In the final statement made by the FLN representative, Brother Sadek Zouaten, member of the permanent secretariat in charge of the Council of Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples, affirmed the firm and principled role of Algeria and the revolution in supporting the liberation movements in all parts of the world, foremost of which is the central issue of the Arab nation — the Palestinian cause. Brother Sadek Zouaten recalled President Chadli Bendjedid's call for an intra-Palestinian dialogue to be hosted by Algeria as an indication of its concern for strengthening the Palestinian revolution and enabling it to resist the Zionist colonialist aggression. Brother Zouaten also affirmed Algeria's support for the Saharan people in its legitimate struggle to regain its rights and self-determination.

We point out that after the end of the proceedings, Brother Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau in charge of the permanent secretariat, received the heads of the delegations participating in the session. A reception ceremony held in honor of the participants was attended by a number of brother members of the permanent secretariat of the FLN Central Committee. [end recording]

KUWAIT

Soviet Ambassador Holds News Conference 18 Jan

LD181950 Kuwait KUNA in English 1700 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 18 (KUNA) — Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Zverev said here Sunday that the Soviet Union attaches great importance to the upcoming Islamic summit conference slated for Jan 26 in Kuwait.

The envoy, in his first press conference since he assumed duties here two months ago, said that Moscow considers the conference an "international event" and believes that the Organization of Islamic Conference, which groups one quarter of the world countries, influences struggle for international peace and cooperation among peoples.

He hoped the Islamic leaders all the best and hoped that the summit resolutions will tangibly contribute in boosting world peace and finding just political settlements to regional disputes.

Zverev pointed out that OIC Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada's last November visit to Moscow was successful and noted that his discussion with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had built bridges of understanding between the organization and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Government has invited Pirzada to visit Moscow in February, he elaborated.

The envoy, describing the Iraq-Iran war as meaningless, said that it has become the bloodiest among contemporary conflicts.

The Gulf war has destabilized the Arab Gulf region, endangered security of regional states, severely damaged the two warring parties and threatened international navigation.

The Soviet people share with Kuwait and the Gulf countries their growing concern over latest developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its repercussions on the whole Gulf region, the ambassador said.

He added that the Soviet people's concern does not only emanate from the nearness of the explosive area but because they have suffered from a more destructive war (World War II) in which 20 million Soviets fell victims.

He underlined that Moscow firmly stands against this war between the neighboring countries, members in the Non-aligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Conference.

Zverev recalled that his government had issued a statement on January 8 calling for an immediate end to the Iraqi-Iranian armed confrontation and solving all disputed questions via peaceful political negotiations.

The ambassador said that Shevardnadze had met four days ago with the Iranian envoy to Moscow and drew his attention to dangers of the continuation of that violent and tragic war and renewed necessity of an immediate halt to that war.

Asked on effects of the secret American arms shipments to Iran on Moscow's relations with Tehran, he said that the two countries enjoy joint economic and political relations and his country wishes to maintain a good neighborly relationship with Iran.

The envoy explained that Moscow had condemned the shipments which would only prolong the war and obstruct efforts aimed at ending the dispute peacefully.

The deal proves duplicity and contradiction of the American moves and stands he charged and underlined that Moscow, though dismayed over the Iranian step in concluding such an "American-Israeli" deal, yet it pursues a balanced policy and maintains political and economic ties with Iran.

Zverev, shifting to the Mideast questions, rejected reports that the Soviet Union was pursuing a passive stance toward events in Lebanon.

"First and foremost we are against policy of intervention in internal affairs of Lebanon, but we followed up with great concern latest developments in the Lebanese arena and the tragedies befalling the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples as a result of escalating struggle between warring parties", he explained.

Soviet Union has adopted serious stands and exerted intensified efforts to lift the siege laid to Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and to end the bloody fighting there, the envoy noted.

The Soviet Government officials have met with representatives of the conflicting sides and the Syrian foreign minister in a bid to convince all concerned parties to end armed dispute and resort to peaceful means, Zverev underlined.

He elaborated that his government mediated in response to a number of calls including one from Kuwait.

The ambassador then talked of his country's efforts to limit nuclear arms race and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on Jan 15 last year calling for the gradual elimination of all nuclear weapons, banning militarization of outer space, destroying chemical weapons and reducing traditional arms under strict international observation.

He noted that Moscow had extended four times its moratorium on nuclear testing, but without any positive response from the United States, in a unilateral attempt to end the arms race.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan's insistence on the Star Wars program has led to failure of the Reykjavik summit, he emphasized.

Zverev underlined that the statement jointly signed by Gorbachev and Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi was of global importance when it called on behalf of one billion people for establishing international relations void of violence.

Meanwhile, the ambassador reiterated his country's calls for a just settlement to the Afghan issue and expressed readiness to pull out Soviet troops from Afghanistan and cooperate with really concerned parties to find a political solution ending the more than seven years long conflict.

Delivers Supreme Soviet Message

LD191421 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1306 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jan (KUNA) — The amir of Kuwait al-Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah today received a message from the Supreme Soviet Presidium expressing best wishes for the success of the Fifth ICO Summit, which will be held in Kuwait next Monday.

The message was conveyed by Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernst Zverev when he was received here today by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Al-Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

Al-Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said the message also deals with the Iraq-Iran war and the nuclear arms issue.

Council of Ministers Discuss Summit Preparations

LD182116 Kuwait KUNA in English 1257 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 18 (KUNA) — The Council of Ministers held its weekly meeting Sunday and discussed the current preparations for hosting the fifth Islamic summit conference, due to be held here next week.

Following the meeting, headed by His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid stated that the Cabinet has discussed political affairs and developments in the Arab arena.

The Council of Ministers took note of a number of reports and cables on the details of those developments and their results.

On the underway efforts to host the Islamic summit, the Council of Ministers expressed deep satisfaction and appreciation for the standard of those preparations and expressed hope that the leaders of the Islamic states will succeed in reaching all what is in interest of the Islamic nation, Rashid said.

The Council of Ministers reviewed the results of the visit to Kuwait by the secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Sharifuddin Pirzada during which he had talks with his highness the amir, his highness the crown prince and prime minister, and the deputy premier and foreign minister on the contacts concerning the details and circumstances surrounding the holding of the conference, Rashid said.

He added that the OIC secretary general has expressed admiration for the standard of preparations provided by Kuwait for hosting the summit.

Rashid also said the Council of Ministers discussed the proposed topics and issues on the agenda of the Islamic summit and heard an explanation from the deputy premier and foreign minister on the nature of those topics and their details and on the contacts for coordination concerning those topics.

The results of the meetings of the foreign undersecretaries of the Gulf Cooperation Council states held in Riyadh and the preparations for the experts committee meeting due to be held here next Wednesday within the framework of the conference's preparatory meetings were also explained by the deputy premier and foreign minister, Rashid said.

The minister of state for cabinet affairs said the Council of Ministers heard a detailed report from Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usami on the details of the seven-man committee, formed by the Arab League Council to hold contacts with the parties concerned to end the camps war in Lebanon following its recent visits to Damascus and Beirut last week.

Al-Usaymi also briefed the Cabinet on the results of the contacts and meetings of the committee with the different parties concerned of the conflict with the aim of reaching a suitable formula for the Lebanese-Palestinian dialogue in order to save the blood of Arabs and to cooperate in facing the common enemy, Rashid said.

The Council of Ministers heard a report from the minister of public health on the results of the 50th session for the Executive Bureau of the Arab Health Ministers Council, which he presided over in Baghdad January 8-9.

The minister of public health briefed the Cabinet on the subjects discussed by those meetings which dealt with the health conditions in the Arab world and ways of developing and promoting them.

The minister also briefed the Cabinet on the results of the 22nd conference of the health ministers of the Arab Gulf states held in Baghdad January 10-12, Rashid said.

Rashid said that due to the great importance of the petroleum sector in Kuwait since it represents the main source of revenues for the country, and stemming from the government's willingness to allow the participation of the national experts and qualified cadres in laying down the oil policies and planning for it with the aim of reaching the ideal way for utilizing that source, the Council of Ministers discussed a draft decree to amend the first and third articles of the decree on setting up the Supreme Petroleum Council.

The Cabinet decided to add six members, who are of experience and efficiency, to join the council, Rashid said adding that a decree appointing them will be issued later.

The Council of Ministers approved the minutes of the previous session and was briefed on the reply message sent by Sudanese Premier and Defense Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi in which he hailed Kuwait's positive role and good-will efforts toward backing the Arab and Islamic solidarity and stressed that his country will participate in the fifth Islamic summit January 26.

The Council of Ministers also reviewed a number of local issues and adopted the necessary resolutions concerning them, Rashid concluded.

Agenda, Other Details Examined

LD201032 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a meeting this morning under the chairmanship of His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and prime minister.

Minister of state for the affairs of the Council of Ministers, Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, stated the following:

The Council of Ministers discussed subjects proposed for inclusion on the agenda of the Islamic summit conference, which will be held in Kuwait on 26 January. The council discussed detailed aspects of these issues in light of the latest contacts made with senior officials in the Arab and Islamic states within the framework of the preparations for holding the conference.

The council was informed of the arrangements made to welcome the delegations of the participating states. The council also discussed details of the fire which broke out last night in some oil locations south of the country. In this connection the council heard a detailed explanation from the interior minister, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and the minister of state for municipal affairs, 'Abd al-Rahman Khalid al-Ghunaym, in which they outlined various details of this fire and the measures taken by the competent authorities to control and put out the fire after a short period of time.

The council praised the efforts made by security and fire fighting personnel and the rest of the competent authorites as well as the efficiency of their performance and the level of coordination and the cooperation with these authorities shown by citizens. The competent authorities began an investigation of this incident.

OMAN

5 Percent Reduction in Oil Output Announced

JN151732 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id ibn Ahmad al-Shanfari said the Sultanate will begin a 5 percent reduction in its current output which is equal to 550,000 barrels per day (bpd), 500,000 of which are exported, while the remaining quantity is consumed locally. The minister said that this decision will take effect 1 February. He emphasized this decision was made in implementation of the wise directives of Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, which emphasize the need to find a reasonable oil price that secures the interests of both producers and consumers. This decision, he added, constitutes a new step in the support rendered to the efforts of OPEC member-states and to those of non-producing countries which seek to stabilize the international oil market.

In press statements, the minister said the reduction announced by the Sultanate is the second in 5 months. The Sultanate, he continued, announced a 50,000 bpd reduction of its oil output in September. This has asserted the Sultanate's role in supporting all efforts aimed at bringing stability to oil prices. The minister added that the new reduction means that the Sultanate will be exporting 468,000 bpd instead of the 500,000 bpd it exported before the reduction.

The minister pointed out that the Sultante decided to begin a 5 percent reduction in its oil output despite the fact that it spent large sums of money to develop existing oilfields and to prospect for new ones. The minister said: The Sultanate has decided to freeze the production of the new Nimr oilfield after having spent large sums of money prospecting for oil in the area and developing this oilfield. This decision was prompted by the importance the Sultanate attaches to the restabilization of oil prices in international markets and also by its belief that non-OPEC oil producing countries must have a supportive role that bolsters OPEC's last agreement. The only perspective through which this issue should be tackled, the minister added, is the one which takes into consideration the fact that a just and reasonable oil price is an urgent and vital need because this secures the interests of both producers and consumers. We also believe, he noted, that the stability of oil prices will lead to economic stability in most world countries.

On the emergency GCC oil ministers' meeting that was held in Riyadh this week, and the reasons for its convocation, the minister said: The GCC states have a great role to play through coordination among themselves to bolster the efforts being exerted to contain the oil crisis and its fluctuations. The minister added: The GCC oil ministers emergency meeting fell within the framework of the efforts being exerted to effect coordination and to hold consultations among the GCC states to help achieve the objectives of all parties. The Sultanate, he said, spares no effort in its cooperation with its brothers in the GCC states and also in any other efforts designed to bolster OPEC, especially because past experience has been arduous for all producers. This difficult experience makes it imperative that coordination among all producers be effected to achieve reasonable prices. The minister emphasized that the GCC oil ministers' emergency meeting was held to bolster OPEC.

The minister said: The tribute paid to the Sultanate's role in achieving stable oil prices through its contacts with oil-producing non-OPEC countries in the concluding statement of the meeting came as a noble gesture toward the Sultanate. The Sultanate continues to coordinate its stands on this issue with six countries: Egypt, Angola, Malaysia, the State of Brunei, Tanzania, and Norway. He added: Most of these countries expressed complete readiness to support OPEC's role and cooperate with it.

Concluding his statement, the petroleum and minerals minister emphasized that the Sultanate of Oman appreciates all the efforts exerted to unify OPEC's ranks and to bring about a stability in oil prices on international markets. The Sultanate also pays tribute to the good efforts of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia and to the personal efforts exerted by the custodian of the two holy mosques to unify OPEC's ranks.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Reiterates Intent To Defend Homeland

LD192111 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1620 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The servant of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, chaired the Council of Ministers meeting held this afternoon.

After the meeting, Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir made the following statement to agency, radio, and television correspondents: [Passage omitted] After the council had reviewed, with guidance from the servant of the two holy mosques, the main political and information reports on the most important events on the Arab scene and in the Gulf region, King Fahd commented on certain matters contained in these reports.

He said, may God protect him: No doubt what is now taking place in the Arab region, whether military events and fighting or economic crises, is a matter that causes concern because the persistence of such situations has negative repercussions on the security of the region. The events in the region also obstruct efforts aimed at the establishment of peace.

He, God protect him, further said: We, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as included in this region, are affected by what affects the region, whether good or bad. Despite the fact that our policy has always called for the use of wisdom to overcome emotion in regard to all the evils facing us, together with the shunning of involvement in any polemics or harming any other state of the region, we — as we have repeatedly said — will defend, if harmed, our sanctities, homeland, and destinies with all the means and capabilities available to us. [Passage omitted]

UAE

Syria's Khaddam Stops Over, Meets 'Abdallah

JN191147 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Jan (WAKH) — Syria's Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam stopped over at Abu Dhabi Airport en route home from Beijing. During the stopover, Khaddam held talks with UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah on various issues of common interest, particularly the present Arab situation and ways to achieve Arab solidarity.

YAR

Foreign Ministry Welcomes UN Gulf War Meeting

JN182102 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Undated Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement]

[Text] The YAR Government welcomes UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's call for holding a UN Security Council meeting on the level of foreign ministers to discuss the Iraq-Iran war. The YAR believes the UN secretary general's call is an important step and expresses the international community's interest in this war, which has long been raging between two neighouring countries and whose continuation has exhausted the two countries' peoples and their human and material resources. The YAR also believes that the continuation of that war threatens the security of the region and world peace and security.

Proceeding from its continuous interest in the region's stability and security, the YAR will continue to call for ending this war by all peaceful means. The YAR welcomes the UN secretary general's call and hopes the UN Security Council will take practical measures to accurately and completely implement UN Security Council Resolution 582 [on ending the Iraq-Iran war].

3 Divisions Prepare For Transfer to Iraqi Front

NC200710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0555 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] According to information from Cairo, three Egyptian Ground Forces divisions, supported by fighter pilots, signal corps personnel, electronics experts, and members of the Air Force, are currently conducting maneuvers with live ammunition in a coastal camp established near Al-Ghurdaqah on the Red Sea. The sources [as heard] note that these three divisions are being readied for transfer to the Iraqi front.

Mubarak Asserts Participation in ICO Summit

NC191317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has asserted he will participate in the ICO summit to be held in Kuwait. He called on all Islamic states to attend this conference in a spirit of goodwill, reason, and realism in order to ensure understanding will prevail and distinguished results will emerge. In a statement to Faysal al-Marzuq, chief editor of the Kuwaiti *Al-Anba'* newspaper, published in today's issue, President Mubarak said the failure of an ICO member to attend the upcoming summit does not mean the conference will fail. In this regard, he noted the ICO summit in Morocco had not been a failure despite the Iran's absence. He urged the Islamic countries to adopt a unified stand, to seek ways to reconcile Iran and Iraq, and to continue their effort to achieve this goal.

With regard to Egypt's relations with Gulf countries, President Mubarak asserted Egypt's readiness to achieve understanding and cooperation with these states. He noted there are some things which cannot be discussed through the media. We do not want to elaborate on those matters which we and our brothers in the Gulf have agreed upon. He stressed the channels for dialogue remain open.

Mubarak reaffirmed the existence of Egyptian-Iraqi coordination, saying it continues despite the lack of diplomatic ties. Commenting on the possibility of sending Egyptian troops to support Iraq, Mubarak said this requires the people's approval expressed through constitutional channels. Any military intervention also requires coordination, preparation, and an accurate assessment of the positions to be adopted by the big powers, as well as the effects such intervention would have on the rest of the region's countries. He noted the Egyptian prisoners of war in Iran are ordinary citizens and not soldiers.

Concerning Syria's stand, Mubarak stated: I am going to Kuwait to attend the ICO summit. I will not be the first to open fire at these meetings unless I am forced to do so to defend Egypt's sons. I will not keep silent about any attack seeking to discredit Egypt's legitimacy at this conference. As Arab countries, I hope we will not start recriminations at this ICO summit.

Responding to the possibility an Arab summit might be convened on the sidelines of the ICO session, President Mubarak said: I am not a member of the Arab League, and we have not received an invitation to attend any such meeting. However, my morals and Arab values make it incumbent upon me to meet with my brother Arab kings and presidents from the fraternal countries. He emphasized no Arab regime or ruler can prevent bonds from developing among the Arab people.

Mubarak asserted: I am going to the ICO summit. Perhaps I will succeed in removing differences from among the Islamic countries. I will not be the first to level accusations. He stressed Egypt does not apply any pressure on the PLO. He added: We want all the parties involved to sit at a negotiating table and work to solve the Palestinian issue. He emphasized this problem can only be resolved through negotiations. I do not believe such negotiations will be easy, he added. However, they will constitute the first step on a long road. He expressed his belief that the longer the Arabs delay in sitting down at a negotiating table, the more they lose. He stressed the need to find an equation that will recognize UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

President Mubarak said Israel is committed to an international conference and that Shim'on Peres had declared this at the meeting in Alexandria. If Shamir, the current Israeli prime minister, wants to go back on this commitment, this will cause us to stop and think. He expressed his belief that although the Israelis do not differ over the idea of an international conference, they are nevertheless placing obstacles in its way. Through their differences the Arabs are assisting them in this. He noted the Arabs are cursing each other. Certain Arabs slander the Israelis in public and contact them in private. Mubarak refused to name these Arabs, saying: I will declare this frankly at the ICO summit if I am forced to do so. I will take this measure in response to statements and indications I receive, but I will not be the initiator.

When asked if Egypt will present an initiative to put an end to the Gulf war, President Mubarak replied the Iranians have rejected any such initiative, as they have rejected the reconciliation efforts made by all parties. He added: Nevertheless, we will not stop trying. We will continue our efforts one way or another, conduct negotiations with several parties, and remain active on other levels. President Mubarak expressed regret at the U.S. stance on the Gulf war. He asked: How can one side be given weapons and the other side information? Do they want the war to continue? He said: I told them they have lost their credibility, not only in the Arab region but throughout the world.

In his interview, President Mubarak affirmed that no member of the regular Egyptian Armed Forces is fighting in Iraq or in any other place outside Egypt. The Egyptian prisoners in Iran are ordinary citizens who went to Iraq to work or to volunteer [in the Iraqi Army]. President Mubarak added that Egypt is trying to gain the release of these prisoners through various legal channels.

Touching on current economic problems, President Husni Mubarak said Egypt has not obtained any military loans during his presidential term. Everything that Egypt receives for weapons is a grant, he added. The military loans for which Egypt is now suffering were negotiated between 1978 and 1981. President Mubarak affirmed Egypt is capable of repaying its debts through hard work and production efforts.

With regard to unifying the price of foreign currency in Egypt, President Mubarak said this cannot be achieved in 24 hours. It must be accomplished in stages to avoid any tremendous increase in prices. He added: We have increased the price of the dollar from 80 to 134 piasters.

President Mubarak also reiterated Egypt has made great strides with regard to economic reform. Had Egypt not made such progress, he noted, the situation would have been much worse. President Mubarak explained economic reform cannot be realized in 24 hours. He added: We are forging ahead with confidence to achieve increased production. Egypt has also made tremendous progress in its efforts to remove all obstacles. However, he noted there were certain stumbing blocks which could only be removed with practice over time.

President Mubarak stated investment laws have become established and clear. An investor can obtain a permit within one week without any trouble. He said areas for investment have been divided into specific sectors with regard to tourism, agriculture, and industry, as well as among various new cities [mudun] such as the city of Al-Sadat, the city of 10 Ramadan, the city of 6 October, and the city of 15 May. Egypt welcomes any honest investor, he added.

In conclusion, President Mubarak affirmed the public sector of Egypt is a mainstay [for the economy] and will never be sold. This sector is part of current strategic plans which concern low-income citizens. The public sector, on the other hand, has nothing to do with small projects and industries.

For example, President Mubarak said, Egypt will not sell Al-Mahallah al-Kubra, the iron and steel factory, or the factories in Kafr al-Dawwar. He noted the public sector's factories are currently being developed and modernized. Efforts are being made to improve the performance of the management in these factories. The public sector, President Mubarak affirmed, will continue to exist. He said Egypt will not become a state where any individual or a handful of individuals can control its destiny and that of its people. Egypt must have a production apparatus that works in favor of the poorer citizens.

Says Iraq Requires 'No Forces'

NC191600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Muscat, 19 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stressed the Iraqi Armed Forces have the ability to repel and confront the Iranian forces. He expressed his belief that Iraq requires no forces from any other Arab country.

In an interview with the *'Uman* newspaper, published in the Sultanate of Oman, which will appear in tomorrow's edition, President Mubarak said Iraq has better forces and equipment than does Iran. He added if Basra falls, it will be the responsibility of the Arabs and the ICO, and not that of one state alone.

In his interview, President Mubarak noted Islam does not approve of bloodshed, fighting, and the exhaustion of resources in such efforts. He expressed regret that there are Arab countries, members of the Arab League, supporting a country that is not a member against an Arab country. He also said he does not condone the war in any way.

President Mubarak added: I would never wish to fight an Islamic country [words indistinct] and what is happening [words indistinct]. Islam is not a religion of fighting. It is not a religion of bloodshed or of the depletion of resources of [words indistinct] in the interest of a non-Muslim party. He continued: Had all efforts been coordinated and had the Arab countries enjoyed unity, no Islamic country would have fought another islamic country. He noted all Arabs are Muslims. He said: When I see one Islamic country fighting another Islamic country, I must mediate, motivated by Islam.

President Mubarak went on to say: Indeed, we have tried to mediate, but Iran does not want to listen. We have no relations with Iran. We are appealing to the Islamic countries that have ties with both parties to intensify their efforts to reduce the tension, the fighting, and the bloodshed between these two Muslim countries. Referring to the possible results of the forthcoming Islamic summit conference in Kuwait, he said: Let us wait and see what happens, because this is an extraordinary summit.

President Mubarak told the paper: There is nothing strange in my meeting with Arab leaders. He pointed out contacts never stopped, despite the long period of stagnation in relations between Egypt and the other Arabs. He added: I met with Arab leaders more than 15 or 20 times when I was vice president. I have friendships with them. If I meet with them in Kuwait, I will be meeting with my brothers.

He went on to say: I know the Arab brothers very well. Foremost among them are Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and our brothers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrain, whom I met at the Nonaligned summit in New Delhi. I meet with them at many international gatherings. He added: I met Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah in the Sultanate of Oman. I met Morocco's King Hassan in New York.

President Mubarak also touched on U.S. policy in the region, saying: The relationship between Egypt and the United States is facing some problems. We are negotiating to resolve them. He added: The U.S. arms deal with Iran has really affected us, not only Egypt but the entire region. It has created a problem and a lack of confidence in the area. He added this is the principal problem.

On the crisis involving Egypt's debts to the United States, President Mubarak said: I have been talking about this crisis with President Reagan since I became president. He added: Egypt's military debts amount to $4.5 billion. However, we must pay around $14 billion to settle this debt, which means $9 billion in interest.

President Mubarak said: The military debt is also a political one. The interest rate should not be what it is. He added: I blame the one who agreed to a fixed interest rate of 14 percent. Time has passed since the 14 percent rate; interest rates even reached 18 percent. The president went on to explain: But when world interest rates drop to 7 percent, there should be no fixed rate at all. He noted the Americans have said the debt will be rescheduled and the problem resolved by changing the interest rate to 7.4 percent and by leaving the remainder of the $14 billion until the end of the loan repayment period, when Egypt will pay one massive installment. President Mubarak described this as terrible, and said: It simply cannot be accepted, for the sake of our coming generations. He added such a solution would, in fact, make things easy for 3 or 4 years, but would hurt the Egyptian people after that. He stressed the interest rate on weapons must be reduced.

Asked whether the debt issue has had an effect on arms procurement for the Egyptian Army, particularly from the United States, President Mubarak said: not to a great degree. He expressed his belief that a solution to this problem will be reached, because Egypt has a firm policy and because differences with the Americans do not mean estrangement or a move to the left or right will result. President Mubarak said: Rescheduling the debts means reducing Egypt's burdens during the development period, so we can proceed with the development stage. This matter is resolved. As for the stalemate with the United States, I consider it a temporary one, for which we must find a solution. He added: The rescheduling of debts provides breathing space, allowing us to go forward with our development plans for the country. This is a very important point, for it means there must be a redistribution of our many burdens.

On Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's recent mission in the region, President Mubarak said: There was nothing new.

Asked whether U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will visit the region, President Mubarak replied he had no idea. He added Shultz was in Africa and then returned to the United States. He would welcome him if he were to come to the area.

Replying to a question about the international conference for peace in the Middle East, President Mubarak said: The majority of countries, or a great number of them, do not want to participate in a committee to prepare for the conference, wishing to attend the conference symbolically perhaps ['ala tariqat al-murur]. He explained this issue is still being debated and he does not know when it will be resolved.

In reply to another question, President Mubarak stressed there must be both committees and direct negotiations between Israel and the concerned countries from the outset, after which the international conference can be held to discuss the results.

President Mubarak described Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union as both good and developing. He said there is nothing new in this respect. The two countries' trade exchange has not ceased.

On the issue of security in the Red Sea and whether Egypt coordinates with both the YAR and the PDRY, President Mubarak said: No, we have not talked about this subject. I cannot coordinate alone on this matter. All countries concerned with the Red Sea must meet. Egypt cannot conclude a unilateral agreement with one country, in the absence of the other countries littoral to the Red Sea.

At the end of the interview, President Mubarak discussed Egyptian-Omani relations. He said they are as good as they can be. He noted that cooperation between Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman is open and limitless. He stressed understanding at all levels — the highest, medium and lower levels — is very good. He said: The views of Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman are identical on 99 percent of all issues, though I would not say 100 percent. He added there is great scope for cooperation between the two countries' various institutions, and the benefits of such cooperation are many.

Islamic Conference Delegation Leaves for Kuwait

NC191424 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1347 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — Ambassador 'Amr Musa, director of the organizations department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, and head of an Egyptian delegation, left Cairo for Kuwait this afternoon. He will participate in meetings to prepare for the Islamic states' foreign ministers conference, which will begin on Wednesday. [passage omitted]

Joint Talks With USSR on Debt Rescheduling Viewed

JN182046 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 16 January 87 p 5

[Unattributed report within "News of the Week" feature]

[Text] *Al-Musawwar*'s political editor has learned the USSR-Egyptian talks held in Cairo recently have ended with complete agreement on defining the outlines to reschedule Egyptian debts to the USSR. More talks are expected to be held in Moscow next February. The political editor also has learned the two sides reached final agreement on defining the size of the debt, which is 840 million Egyptian pounds according to an agreement between the two sides.

The Egyptian side asked the new amount be applied with no retroactive effect, especially concerning military debts, because Egypt has repaid in full the civilian debts — that is, the High Dam debts and the industrialization projects debts — in accordance with these amounts.

The political editor has also learned both sides concluded an agreement rescheduling debts and granting Egypt a grace period of 6 years, after which replayment will begin in the form of 19 annual installments. Thus, the time framework for repayment will be 25 years, including the grace period. Despite the fact that the Soviet side wanted the interest rate of 2 percent to continue, President Mubarak had previously asked Dr Victor Dementsev, chairman of the USSR State Bank and head of the Soviet delegation, to convey to Soviet leader Gorbachev Cairo's desire that he reduce or even cancel the interest rate.

The political editor has learned the Soviet side is now considering an Egyptian proposal that 75 percent of the accumulated surplus in the trade balance between the two countries in Egypt's favor — a surplus amounting to $400 million — be used to repay part of the military debts and that the remainder be paid by the USSR in cash. It can be said the two sides solved most of their problems in the recent Cairo talks during the meeting between President Mubrak and the Soviet delegation and during a final meeting between Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi and the delegation.

According to a source close to the talks, the Soviet delegation promised the president to convey to Gorbachev Cairo's desire to cancel the interest rate on the military loans so the Egyptian-USSR agreement on rescheduling debts could become a model for correct relations between superpowers and Third World countries during the current economic crisis. According to the same source, the talks between the two sides were characterized by extreme warmth after the Soviet side sensed the Egyptian Government's interest in correct and developed relations with the Soviet Union. Within this framework, President Mubarak agreed to the reestablishment of the Egyptian-Soviet Friendship Society, whose presidency many be given to Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

The political editor has learned the Soviet delegation expressed to Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi its extreme admiration of the Egyptian High Dam electric power station, describing its management as perfect,as its production rate surpassed that of the Soviet Union and of most countries. The head of the Soviet delegation expressed his country's readiness to supply all the spare parts the station needs without any delay and without reservation to maintain the high production rates.

The political editor has also learned the talks covered supplying Soviet spare parts for a number of weapons still owned by the Egyptian Armed Forces which continue to be serviceable despite their supposedexpiration. The political editor also learned the two sides concluded about 20 sub protocols, the most important of which deal with enlarging Halwan's iron and steel factories, enlarging the aluminum complex with complementary industries, adding a fourth battery to the coke fuel factory, and renovating the Shubra glass factory.

The political editor has learned the Egyptian side showed understanding of the need to reconsider the exchange rate of the pound sterling, on whose basis trade between the two countries were calculated, although differences are still rife on defining its final rate.

Soviets Send Message to Mubarak on High Dam

NC201128 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 19 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has received a message from the Soviet leaders in which they stressed the need for Soviet experts alone to undertake repair of the High Dam turbines "without enabling the Americans to exploit this symbol of Egyptian-Soviet friendship."

According to sources close to the Egyptian presidency, "Soviet Ambassador Zhuravlev gave the message to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, who in turn passed it on to President Mubarak. In their message, Soviet leaders said that 26 experts, 12 of whom had designed and supervised the construction of the High Dam, are awaiting Cairo's approval to proceed to Aswan to inspect the turbines which are in need of repair." The message noted these experts will supervise the installment of new Soviet turbines to replace the old ones having a diminished capacity to generate electricity. The message expressed the Soviet desire to coordinate efforts with Egypt to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war through mediation between the warring factions.

Salah Basyuni, the Egyptian ambassador to Moscow, also sent a report to Mubarak in which he praised Egyptian-Soviet relations. He noted the current stage is characterized by mutual understanding. Both countries, he added, seek to exchange opinions and hold consultations for the sake of achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In his report, Basyuni said the Soviet have expressed a readiness to participate in the promotion and expansion of industrial projects. They also conveyed a willingness to cooperate in the implementation of the power plants which are to become operational in accordance with the 5-year plan, scheduled to begin in mid-1987.

IMF Official Arrives For Talks on Loans

NC192211 Cairo MENA in English 2116 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — The executive director of the International Monetary Fund arrived here tonight on a few days' visit.

He said upon arrival that talks between the IMF and Egypt would start tomorrow on the issue of the loans to be extended by the fund to Egypt. The European countries and the United States support Egypt for solving its debt issue, he added.

The IMF executive director also said he would meet during the visit with Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, Minister of Finance Muhammad al-Razzaz, Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr Ysri Mustafa, and Central Bank Governor Dr Salah Hamid. The IMF operations director for the Middle East, Dr 'Abd al-Shakur Sha'lan, had arrived in Cairo earlier today to take part in the talks.

Cypriot Interior Minister Begins Visit 18 Jan

NC180906 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA) — Cypriot Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis arrived in Cairo this morning for a 2-day visit, during which he will deliver a written message to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak from Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou.

The Cypriot interior minister will hold talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Zaki Badr, the interior minister.

Mr Konstandinos was received at the airport by Ambassador Wafa' Hijazi, assistant foreign minister; Major General Ra'fat al-Sayyid, assistant interior minister; and Sotiris Ellinas, the Cypriot ambassador in Cairo.

Interior Ministers Meet

NC181423 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA) — Interior Minister Zaki Badr has met in his office with Cypriot Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis, who arrived in Cairo earlier today. Their discussion dealt with various aspects of bilateral security cooperation. The meeting was attended by Major General Ra'fat al-Sayyid, assistant interior minister for security affairs, and Cypriot Ambassador in Cairo Sotiris Ellinas.

Received by Mubarak

NC190941 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Cypriot Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also attended the meeting. Following the talks, the Cypriot minister said he had conveyed a verbal message to President Mubarak from Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou. The message dealt with the Cyprus problem and certain international issues, particularly the current Middle East situation and international terrorism.

Mubarak also received the Sudanese minister of transportation, who is currently visiting Cairo, at the Al-'Urubah Palace today. Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport, also attended this meeting.

PRC Communist Party Official Arrives 19 Jan

NC191434 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA) — Zhu Liang, director [as received] of the PRC Communist Party Central Committee's International Liaison Department, arrived in Cairo this morning leading a delegation on a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his visit, the PRC guest is expected to meet with Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Safwat al-Sharif, information minister; and Kamal al-Shadhili, NDP assistant secretary general.

Upon his arrival, Zhu Liang stated his visit to Egypt is intended to strengthen the relations between the PRC Communist Party and the NDP in Egypt. He said relations between Egypt and the PRC and between the two countries' leaders are friendly, close, and lasting. He added the PRC Communist Party wishes to establish amicable relations with the various parties of the world, in keeping with international principles, and noted friendly relations have been established with well over 200 such parties. Concluding his statement, he greeted Egypt's leaders and people. He was received at Cairo Airport by Agriculture Ministry Under Secretary Muhammad al-Dusuqi and the staff of the PRC Embassy in Cairo.

Ramadan Interviewed on Iranian Offensive, Summit

JN180755 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni in Baghdad]

[Text] Iraq is confident of its ability to repel any attempt by Iranian forces to advance on the eastern sector of Basra and establish a stronghold in Iraq's southern city, according to Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan.

Mr Ramadan said that Iraqi forces were ready for Iran's long-heralded final offensive and promised heavy casualties on the Iranian side.

On the evening of Jan. 9, Iran launched its second large offensive against Iraq in two weeks and Iranian frogmen successfully infiltrated the swamps and an artificial water barrier known as Fish Lake to solid ground six to eight miles east of the southern port of Basra.

The Iraqi Army was able to repulse the attack and drive them back to the swamps between the Fish Lake and the borders.

But the Iranians kept their human wave attacks, under the cover of night, trying to go beyond the lake from the south in an attempt to create an opening to Basra.

Mr Ramadan said the Iraqi forces easily repelled the Iranians, in no time, from the eastern marshes but such an operation, he explained, would be "at the expense of losing the opportunity to kill as big a number of them as possible, who oddly enough keep their influx to the killing zone."

The Iraqi Army kept on shelling the swampy area "the killing zone" with heavy artillery and surface-to-surface missiles in order to score a big number of casualties among the Iranians, but military experts said that Iraqis could not afford to launch a big counterattack to finish off the operation swiftly, since that would lead to sustaining heavy Iraqi casualties.

Military experts believe that Iran was trying to pave the way towards Basra by overtaking and exhausting the Iraqi defence lines. The next steps would be to send troops from the Al-Faw Island south of Basra to encircle the city and capture it. Mr Ramadan said there was "no way that Iraq would allow Iran to achieve such goals."

The Iranians have also struck three times last week against the central operational sector around 120 kilometres east of Baghdad.

The Iraqi Army declared that it had successfully repulsed the Iranian troops.

According to Mr Ramadan the Iranians started massing up troops on the central borders a while before their first offensive on Dec. 25. "The attack against the central sector was planned as part of the same offensive against the south, but when the Army crushed the invasion swiftly and in less than 40 hours, the Iranians had to retreat and change their plans," he said.

Iran, in the Iraqi official's view, was anticipating a big victory then and that would have allowed it to establish a puppet regime there.

"The offensive was proceeded by political preparations including the meeting which was held in Tehran in November for the so called Iraqi opposition which was ready to take over."

The meeting was attended by Kurdish and other groups opposed to the Iraqi Government.

In his view the first offensive was the beginning of the long heralded "final offensive," that Iran has been threatening to launch for the last two years. "But the swift Iraqi defeat forced Iran to hold back and retreat."

The Iranians, however, were forced to resume and launch another attack against the eastern Basra sector to [as published] weeks later "cover up for the losses which have reflected badly on the status of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards inside Iran," he said.

While military experts insist that the attack against the eastern sector was carried out by regular troops, Mr Ramadan said that it was co-ordinated between the Guards and the regular troops." [end quotation mark as published]

"The Guards are trying to save their face after their defeat in which they have deployed their elite divisions, while the Army, which competes with the Guards is trying to gain the credit for any limited gain this offensive could achieve."

Therefore, the Iraqi official said, the Guards and the troops are likely to continue launching attacks against Iraq in a desperate attempt to win a limited victory.

Mr Ramadan agreed there was a link between the latest Iranian attacks and the scheduled Islamic summit conference to be held in Kuwait on Jan. 26.

He said: "While Iran was claiming that it would attend the Islamic summit conference before it had launched its aborted offensive, it was really aiming at achieving a big victory such as the takeover of Basra, to prove to the summit that it was maintaining superiority on the ground and consequently influence their decisions or even disrupt the summit."

However, Mr Ramadan said his country did not pin great hopes on the summit. "We appreciate any stand in support of Iraq but we basically depend on ourselves and the courage of the Army to force Iran to accept an end to the war."

In the interview, Mr Ramadan said there was no real change in the Iraqi strategy which has always been based on exhausting the military and economic resources of its enemy. However, Iraq has become "more forceful" in applying its strategy by giving a bigger role to its superior Air Force, he added.

The latest round of fighting between the two countries estalated to a resumption of the "war of the cities," in defiance of a United Nations-brokered agreement in 1985 under which both sides were to refrain from shelling cities and residential areas.

"We were forced to resume (the shelling of Iranian cities) when Iran continued shelling our cities in Basra and Baghdad over the last six months," Mr Ramadan said. "We simply ran out of patience."

Says U.S. Credibility 'Lost'

JN180800 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 87 p 1

[By Lamis K. Andoni in Baghdad]]

[Text] Baghdad — A senior Iraqi official has said that the American arms shipments to Iran and the supply by Washington of misleading intelligence to Iraq was aimed at prolonging the war in an attempt to reassert the U.S. influence in the vital region.

"The U.S. wanted to ensure the continuation of the war so that it could use the Iranian threat to pressure the Gulf states to accept its intervention and allow the setting up of American military bases in the region," Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said.

He said that the American design reflected an anticipation that the Iranian regime would return to the American camp and serve its interests in the region.

"The Iranian regime, in its structure and set up, and being as reactionary as it is, constitutes a perfect project for a regime that can serve the American interest against the Arab World," Mr. Ramadan told the *Jordan Times*.

He said that elements in Tehran, led by Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, have maintained strong channels with the Americans since 1981. "Rafsanjani was the one who arranged the American-Iranian deal to the release the American diplomats who were taken hostage in the American embassy in Tehran," he said.

The Iraqi leader confirmed the U.S. had been supplying Iraq with false and misleading information about the movement of Iranian troops which he said led to the Iraqi loss of Al-Faw Island near the Kuwaiti borders.

Asked about the Iraqi reaction to the U.S., Mr Ramadan said that Baghdad sent an angry message to Washington questioning whether the American aim was to "allow Iran to occupy Iraq." But the Americans, according to Mr Ramadan, said it was not done on purpose and that they had sent whatever information was available.

Mr Ramadan said the Americans "again underestimated the Iraqi level of intelligence when they claimed that their secret arms deal with Iran did not reflect a real change in the American position towards the war. They think we are politically naive." He described the American action as 'immoral.'

Mr Ramadan said last August Iraq started receiving information from a special intelligence unit set up at the American Embassy in Baghdad.

Asked of why Iraq continued to take the information despite its realisation that the Americans have misled them before the battle of Al-Faw, Mr Ramadan said that following the incident they had doubts about everything they received from the Americans and had been receiving information from other sources without solely relying on the American information. "But it was not until the realised that it was actually part of a bigger and premediated design," he said.

Asked what could the U.S. do to repair the damage Mr Ramadan said: "The recent American actions have seriously damaged our bilateral relations and destroyed all bridges of trust between U.S."

"Therefore it would take strenuous efforts by the U.S. to repair the inflicted damage," he said. "But we really cannot believe anything that the U.S. will do or say. The U.S. has lost its credibility as far as Iraq is concerned."

"I think America has lost its credibility with all of its friends in the area," he added.

But despite Iraq's seething anger at the American-Iranian deal, Mr Ramadan said that in the final analysis the revelation proved Iraq's long standing argument that Iran was not and could not be any ally of the Arabs and has even been buying weapons from Israel. "In a way the revelations have been a factor of strength to the Iraqi position since it proved our argument and undermined claims by some Arab countries that Iran was anti-zionist and anti-imperialist," he said. "It sure was an embarrassment for those countries, although I think that such Arab countries are shameless," he said.

The Iraqi leader, however, said that the revelations about the Iranian-American-Israeli connection could lead some reluctant Arab countries to change their stands.

Asked if he meant countries like Algeria he said that "Algeria has a different case because it has recently realised that Iran has been intervening in its internal affairs and backing the Algerian opposition under the name of supporting Islam." Mr Ramadan did not elaborate but it is possible that he was referring to the Muslim fundamentalists, who have been active recently in Algeria.

Reports, Communiques Detail Current Fighting

16 Jan Reportage

JN160838 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0636 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi newspaper has affirmed that the Iranian forces in the III Army Corps operational sector are completely unable to achieve any of their objectives and that time is not on their side. In an editorial today, the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* said the Iranian losses are accumulating by the hour and that their impotence is becoming deeper and graver. They are approaching a state of comprehensive and final powerlessness. The paper added that all signs point to the Iranians' lack of enthusiasm for fighting despite all the lies and allegations of their rulers and that victory has been ultimately decided in favor of Iraq.

Concluding, the paper said the Iraqi Armed Forces are determined to uproot aggression and end all hopes of the Iranian rulers for achieving their aggressive aims. They are also determined to make them regret the day that they launched their aggression against Iraq.

Jasim on Iranian 'Failure'

JN161313 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA) — Iraq Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has asserted that the recent battle in the III Army Corps sector turned into a genuine catastrophe for the Iranian regime and that Basra remained steadfast and lofty, guarded by men who are faithful in defending the homeland under the banner of leader Saddam Husayn.

In a statement to the *Iraqi News Agency* today, Jasim said that as a result of the Iranian enemy's absolute failure in the recent battles east of Basra and also as a result of sustaining huge human losses and of foiling the Iranian scheme aimed at Basra, the Iranian regime, under such psychological pressure, has begun to issue false communiques containing false figures on Iraqi losses, figures which only exist in the Iranian regime's imagination.

The Iraqi minister referred to the initial results of the battles. He said such results foiled the Iranian regime's endeavors and destroyed a major portion of the Iranian units which were ready to implement the evil intentions harbored against Basra. He asserted that the decisive Iraqi reply was due to the strength of the Iraqi Armed Forces and also due to their high combat capabilities, high morale, and preparedness to fight in defense of the homeland.

Concluding his statement, Latif Nusayyif Jasim warned the Iranian regime that if it tries again to attack Iraqi territory, then the evil ones this regime has trained will be violently crushed and will not be able to achieve the aims sought by the criminal Iranian regime.

Communique No 2,529

JN161830 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,529 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This homeland will continue to be stronger than the designs of the plotters and harsh on its racist and anti-Arab enemies. In these immortal days the men of Iraq are forging heroic epics that will be historic. They are showing indescribable courage, and are inflicting on the enemy of God and the enemy of their country incredible and damaging losses. These losses are such that the defeated charlatans will be unable to disguise them. Thus, they will have a great effect on the regime's very survival and on the pillars of their country in various fields. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah there was artillery fire was exchanged between our forces and enemy forces. Our heroic artillery force inflicted enormous losses on the aggressors. The enemy tried to pressure our forces in the sector. However, our valiant forces succeeded in strongly repulsing the enemy and are now standing fast on the fortified defense line between the area south of Al-Asmak Lake and the area to the west in the direction of the Shatt al-Arab. In repulsing the enemy, our forces inflicted heavy losses on the aggressors in addition to their other enormous losses.

2. In reference to the military spokesman's statement last night in which he mentioned the defeat of last night's abortive enemy attempt to attack the Dhulfaqar forces in the heroic II Army Corps sector last night, the enemy repeated its miserable attempt. They dispatched two brigades which tried to advance toward our forces in the same sector at 2255 last night. The heroic Dhulfaqar forces confronted the enemy, completely blocked its attempt, killed more than 500 of them, and wounded many, in addition to the thousands of dead who were only thrown into this sector. To hell and a miserable destiny.

The situation was resolved favorably for our victorious forces after the remnants of the enemy retreated in disarray pursued by the fire of our mighty artillery, thanks to the soldiers of the heroic II Army Corps and the valiant Dhulfaqar forces. God champions those who support him, and God is the best supporter. [Koranic verse]

3. The daring pilots continue, with their customary courage, with skillful performance and capable command to pursue the enemy forces. They are shattering their remnants, demolishing their positions, and destroying their equipment, weapons, and vehicles. Today they carried out 287 combat missions in which they inflicted heavy losses on the aggressors and achieved the following:

a. In retaliation for the criminal enemy's shelling of the residential areas in Basra last night and today, our aircraft launched a violent raid on Qom and bombed the dens of the charlatans at 1210 today.

b. At 1220 today, our aircraft showered Hamadan with bombs as punishment for the Khomeynite scoundrels shelling of purely residential areas in Basra.

c. At 1305 today, our aircraft dealt a destructive strike at the Arak railway station, which is used for military transport, scoring direct hits.

d. At 1445 today, our aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target off the iranian coast.

e. At 1550 today, 10 aircraft of our heroic Air Force attacked Shahabad [Eslamabad] and turned it into rubble.

f. At 1857 [as heard] today, 14 aircraft of our mighty Air Force once again attacked Shahabad and dealt a violent and destructive blow to the city.

After carrying out all of their missions, our aircraft returned safely to base with the exception of one that crashed in enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the life of its pilot.

5. The Army's daring airborn division carried out 222 combat missions today in which they attacked enemy troop concentrations, tanks, vehicles, weapons, and positions.

The valiant helicopter pilots have provided the best support to our valiant forces as they repulsed enemy attacks. Afterwards, they returned safely to base with their aircraft protected by God.

6. At 1250 today, the enemy fired one of the missiles supplied by traitors of the Arab nation at Baghdad. The missile hit a residential area, killing a number of civilian citizens, and wounding others, as well as demolishing some houses and shops. The criminal enemy also shelled Basra, using long-range artillery, killing 3 civilians including 1 woman, and wounding 34 civilians including 6 children and 4 women. Two enemy aircraft raided the Al-Siddiq district. As a result 6 civilians, including 2 children and 4 women, were killed, and 13 civilians, including 3 children and 5 women, were wounded. One enemy aircraft raided residential areas in the Al-'Amadiyah district. As a result, 16 civilians, including 6 women and 6 children, were wounded.

Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs, and a speedy recovery to our wounded, God willing. The tyrannical clique ruling Iran must expect our crushing retaliation against the dens of vileness for they will not be saved by wailing or remorse.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 January 1987

Iranian F-4 'Downed'

JN161916 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1856 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 16 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1118 today an enemy F-4 aircraft attempted to penetrate our airspace in the I Special Army Corps sector. It was intercepted by the men of our defenses in the I Special Army Corps, the God is great forces, who downed it. The aircraft was seen crashing in flames inside enemy territory in the area facing our forces. May God bless the heroic men of our air defenses.

[Dated] 16 January 1987

Aircraft Hit 3 Cities

JN170606 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 16 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The despotic Iranian clique, which is led by its hatred and evil to strike at our cities, should be taught the lesson it deserves. To continue our severe punishment of this stray clique, the gigantic aircraft of our Air Force carried out the following missions:

1. At 2245 our aircraft launched a devastating raid on the city of Tabriz.

2. At 2315 our aircraft carried out another raid on the city of Dezful.

3. At 2321 our aircraft raided Esfahan.

After destroying their targets, our brave hawks returned with their planes safely to the homeland in God's care.

[Dated] 16 January 1987

17 Jan Reportage

JN170712 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has affirmed that the Iranian forces have lost 10,000 killed in their many attempts to regain control over positions purged by Iraqi forces in the central sector of the battlefield. In a statement to *Al-Qadisiyah*, newspaper of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, the commander of the Muhammad al-Qasim Forces said that after their failure to confront the Iraqi formations, the Iranian forces were compelled to resort to infiltration techniques, which means they failed on the battlefield. All infiltrators were either killed or captured.

The Iraqi commander added that the recent battle which began on the morning of 9 January was finally settled in Iraq's favor because the Iranian forces failed to achieve any of their plans and dreams designed by the Iranian regime.

Position in South Enhanced

JN170902 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) — The course of military operations has affirmed that the Iraqi forces have enhanced their combat position to reinforce their confrontation of the Iranian forces in the areas of aggression after the failure of all the Iranian infiltration attempts in the area to the south of Al-Asmak Lake in the southern sector of the battlefield.

The Iraqi forces continue to strike at the Iranian forces wherever they appear opposite them, destroying their elements and weapons if they try to approach the fornt border positions. The Iranians are now besieged by the Iraqis from the borderline, lake, and marsh areas.

An Iraqi press team said the situation in the combat theater as of yesterday evening was settled in favor of the Iraqi forces, which dealt blows to Iranian infiltration attempts in the last few days. The Iranians have benefited from the nature of the terrain which is full of palm trees and waterways.

The Iraqi press team said that the Muhammad al-Qasim and Salah al-Din Forces have destroyed all Iranian attempts to approach the city of Basra — attempts by the Iranian forces to to cross the lake's southern crossways. Strong blows were dealt to footholds east of the lake and to the few Iranian soldiers who succeeded in penetrating at the start of the aggression to a narrow strip on the eastern coast of the lake near Kut al-Sawadi. The team added that these blows, as well as Iraqi firepower, made it possible for the Iraqi forces to decide the situation from the beginning, destroying the main plan of aggression, that is, of penetrating the city of Basra.

The Iraqi press team quoted a field commander, commenting on the control imposed by the Iraqi units on this important area, as saying that the Iraqi forces inflicted great losses on the Iranian forces as a result of the repeated blows dealt to them and the continuous attacks which amounted to more than one each day. The Iraqi commander added that the Iraqi fighters' capability to contain the developments in the combat situation despite the thrust of the Iranian forces which were thrown on to the battlefield, as well as to destroy the Iranian forces in this area and [word indistinct] east of Al-Asmak Lake played an effective role in settling the situation to the advantage of the Iraqi forces.

The Iraqi press team said that new developments in military operations, accompanied by artillery firepower and helicopter sorties, aim to continuously exhaust the Iranian forces.

3,298 Jet, Helicopter Missions

JN170931 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes and helicopter gunships have carried out as of yesterday 3,298 combat missions and sorties since the beginning of the Iranian aggression aimed against the III Army Corps sector on the morning of 9 January. Iraqi fighter planes launched 1,854 combat missions while the helicopter gunships made 1,444 combat sorties against Iranian positions and concentrations. In their combat missions and sorties, Iraqi planes and helicopter gunships destroyed 776 vehicles loaded with enemy personnel, sunk 221 boats with their crews, and dealt concentrated and effective blows to 4 large maritime targets near the Iranian coast.

Last week's battles also witnessed a series of devastating raids launched by Iraqi fighter planes on surface-to-air Hawk missile batteries in Mohammerah [Khorramshahr], Bandar-e Khomeyni, and Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

Iraqi fighter planes also raided the following eight Iranian cities: Qom, Esfahan, Dezful, Basatin, Tabriz, Kashan, Arak, and Ilam, dealing concentrated and devastating blows. Qom received the largest share as it was attacked six times.

The Iraqi missile force inflicted devastating blows on the following four cities: Ramhormoz, Dezful, Nahavand, and Borujerd. Some of these cities were hit more than once.

The Iraqi Air Force also hit and destroyed many bridges, power stations, pumping stations, and military installations in many Iranian cities. Our aircraft also gave effective support to Iraqi ground forces as they liberated Iranian footholds.

Commander on Southern Sector

JN170957 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) The commander of the Al-Nu'man Forces has said that the Iraqi forces have aborted all attempts by Iranian forces to expand the area in which they infiltrated inside Iraqi territory in the southern sector of the battlefield. In a statement published today in *Al-Qadisiyah*, the organ of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, the Iraqi commander said his forces destroyed in the past few days, through sound field planning and directives, eight divisions of the Khomeyni Guards. They also destroyed other brigades and regiments, and Armored Division 92 and the formations and regiments affiliated with it of the regular Army. He explained that the Iraqi forces foiled enemy infiltration attempts and killed or captured all infiltrators.

Missile Battery, Ship Hit

JN171018 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 17 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To challenge the enemy's antiaircraft defenses, at 0740 today our brave hawks pounced on a Hawk surface-to-air missile batter in the Teheri area, which the Zionist enemy has supplied its agents in Tehran, dealt it an accurate blow, and destroyed it.

At 0915 today our hawks also launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective blow. Our hawks then returned safely with their planes to the homeland in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 17 January 1987

Khomeyni Headquarters Bombed

JN171124 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1048 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,530 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people, sons of the glorious Arab nation: God is great, glory to great Iraq. God is great, loftiness to the glorious Arab ation. One day after another and one year after another, Iraq's brave men prove they are measuring up to the expectations of their nation and people and that they honorably bear the values and meaning of Iraqi and Arab glory. The hawks of our heroic Air Force exemplify this honor.

To make the Tehran charlatan and his aides realize the Iraqis' bravery and their belief in their principles, a selected heroic formation from our Air Force at 1205 today flew from the house of pride and honor with Tehran, the capital of charlatan vipers, as thier destination. Their target this time was the viper's head, the Tehran charlatan — Khomeyni — and his headquarters, the den of his close aides, the den of shame, evil, and charlatanism.

The brave hawks directed at their targets the lava of their bombs and returned carrying the glory and honor of their great deeds. They returned in God's care and protection and with the prayers of all Iraqi men and women. O banners of glory and principles of heaven witness this. We have fufilled our duties and we are always prepared to prove that we are the grandsons of our great Arab ancestors and the sons of the glorious Iraqi men and women. God is great. Accursed be the lowly.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 17 January 1987

Communique No 2,531

JN171806 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,531 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces have continued their heroic confrontation of the aggressor forces inflicting grave losses on their personnel, equipment, and weapons. The following is a roundup of the activities for last night and today:

1. The disappointed enemy made several attempts to attack our valiant units in the heroic III Army Corps sector south of Asmak Lake. Our valiant units confronted the enemy forces and managed to thwart all of these attempts. In doing so, they inflicted grave losses on the enemy personnel, while the rest of the enemy forces fled. These were in turn pursued by our artillery units which also directed intense fire against the enemy's positions, its personnel concentrations, and the movement of its vehicles. They suffered grave losses as a result.

2. Continuing to exercise our firm, legitimate right to inflict the most severe form of punishment on the Zionist Iranian rulers for their continuing aggression against our international borders and land and for shelling purely residential districts, our giant Air Force carried out 264 combat missions today. They provided the most effective support for our valiant units in confronting the scoundrels and in destroying their concentrations, weapons, equipment, and vehicles through the following heroic combat missions:

a. At 0740 today, our brave hawks pounced on a Hawk missile surface-to-air battery in the Teheri area and managed to deliver an accurate blow to it and destroy it.

b. At 0915 today, our brave hawks delivered an accurate, effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

c. At 1053 today, our planes launched a raid against a railway station south of the Taleh Zang Bridge.

d. At 1123 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the city of (Kohadasht).

e. At 1128 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the city of Dehloran.

f. At 1133 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the city of Ilam.

g. At 1620 today, our planes launched a raid against a Hawk surface-to-air missile battery in Ahvaz.

h. At 1632 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the steel and iron foundry in the city of Ahvaz.

i. At 1641 today, our planes launched a raid against another battery in the Teheri area.

j. At 1645 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the Ahvaz railway station.

k. At 1653 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against the water purification plant south of Ahvaz.

l. At 1648 today, our planes launched a destructive raid against a Hawk missile battery east of the Karun River.

After carrying out their missions, our planes returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God. Blessed be the valiant hawks for all of their efforts to uphold the pride of this homeland and protect the security of the citizens.

3. The valiant nights of the brave Army helicopters continued, as usual, to monitor the enemy's movements, pursue their prey, and provide the most splendid form of support for our valiant units in confronting the enemy forces. Through 256 brave combat missions, they managed to destroy a number of enemy personnel concentrations, tanks, vehicles, equipment, and weapons after which they returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

4. One of our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted two enemy helicopters. It confronted them with its various weapons and our valiant soldiers managed to down one of them, a Cobra helicopter, which was seen falling ablaze in front of our units in enemy territory.

5. The criminal ruling clique in Iran shelled the residential districts in the city of Basra and Badrah District using long-range artillery. The enemy shelling martyred 18 civilians, including a woman and a child, and wounded 37 citizens, also civilians, including 2 women and 3 children in the city of Basra. Three children were martyred and four citizens were wounded, including two children in the Badrah District. Mercy to our martyrs and a quick recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 17 January 1987

Command Meeting Lasts 10 Hours

JN172022 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today chaired a meeting of the Armed Forces General Command which lasted nearly 10 hours. During the meeting, his excellency praised the heroic fighting of the heroic 11th Division, commanders and other ranks, for its courageous, heroic confrontation and defeat of the rancorous Iranian regime's aggression during the recent battles in the III Army Corps sector. The participants also discussed the lessons learned from the victorious III Army Corps battles which it waged in defending the homeland. The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman; General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; 'Ali Hasan al-majid, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of information and culture; Gen 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; the president's secretary; members of the Armed Forces General Command; and a number of field commanders.

Planes Strike at 4 Cities

JN172056 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2022 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 17 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order to make the Khomeyniite scoundrels realize that we will be God's devastating wrath at every time and place, in order to make them aware that there will be no escape for them from Iraq's power, in order to make them know their true selves and size, and in order to make them realize that we will punish them day and night as long as they insist on war, commit an aggression against our country, and cowardly shell the residential districts in our cities, all at once waves of our giant Air Force planes raided the following cities this evening at 2150: Qom, Dezful, Esfahan, and Tabriz. Our planes violently pounded its targets and demolished the dens of the Khomeyniites upon their heads, inflicting on them grave losses in life and equipment. Our planes returned with their brave hawks safely and triumphantly in God's care and protection.

We promise to implement our people's will in destroying the pillars of aggression, pounding its strongholds, and punishing the agents of Zionism until they return to their senses and admit the fact that they are too insignificant to harm great Iraq and that they will remain under Iraq's hammers until the war ends, refrain from practicing the policy of aggression against our borders, and refrain from shelling our cities. We have never done anything without giving prior warning. Accursed be the Khomeyniite scoundrels and may the Iraqis continue to enjoy glory and victory. May their lives be full of assurance, happiness, and prosperity.

[Dated] 17 January 1987

18 Jan Reportage

JN180735 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0612 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan (INA) — The commander of the Salah al-Din Forces, who is holding the rank of staff brigadier general, has affirmed that the Salah al-Din Forces and the formations incorporated with them have managed to stop the thrust of the Iranian forces in most positions and destroy the Iranian forces in them since the first day of the recent offensive on the III Army Corps sector.

In an interview with the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah*, organ of the Defense Ministry, published today, the commander said that the Salah al-Din Forces and the formations incorporated with them have managed to purge several other positions from the Iranian forces after inflicting unprecedented losses on them.

The commander added that the next chapters of the battle, thanks to the plans described by the Armed Forces General Command, will turn into a real disaster for the aggressors. They will suffer further losses. This will leavea great effect on the enemy war machine and the Iranian rulers will be completely unable to continue their aggression against Iraq.

II Army Corps Attacked

JN180939 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0924 GMT 18 Jan

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 18 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Following the ignonimous and crushing defeat inflicted on the charlatans' regime in the heroic II and III Army Corps sector, and following the heavy losses inflicted on the regime and its scoundrels — losses estimated in the thousands — without the regime being able to achieve even a small fraction of the evil goals it dreamed of and trumpeted, and indeed retreating in defeat and distrace, that criminal regime is trying to cover up its scandal by feeble attempts to attack our forces.

The scoundrel Khomeyniites repeated their attempts at various times last night from 2330 and dispatched a force exceeding two infantry brigades and supported by artillery to attack our valiant units of the heroic Dhulfaqar Forces in the II Army Corps sector. Before the forces of the senile, defeated charlatan Khomeyni could reach our forward barriers, they were met by our heavy fire which burned and destroyed most of the attacking force. Only a few survived and fled in terror. The situation was decided completely in favor of our victorious forces.

O men of the valiant Dhulfaqar Forces, its command, officers, and men; O men of the heroic II Army Corps, you have been equal to the challenge. May God preserve you defenders of God's teachings and defenders of the border of the great homeland.

[Dated] 18 January 1987

Communique No 2,532

JN181415 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1259 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,532 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 18 January 1987]]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great, God is great, and it is God who grants success. O great people: As we announced in the military spokesman's statement issued this morning, our heroic forces of the brave II Army Corps and the brave Dhulfaqar Forces have confronted several offensives launched by the criminal enemy. We announce to our great people and our brave Armed Forces' fighters on the front lines that the soldiers of the heroic II Army Corps and the brave Dhulfaqar Forces — commanders, officers, and other ranks — have demonstrated unmatched courage and, with their heroic performances, expressed the astuteness, patience, and endurance of the Iraqi fighters as well as their faith in God and principles.

Every time the disappointed enemy launches an offensive against them in this sector, our fighters defeat them. They are waging this war for the sake of God and the homland just as their grandfathers waged their wars which constitute brilliant pages in our history. Our fighters are always ready, with the homeland in their hearts and the leader's picture in their eyes, to pounce on their enemy with the destructive force provided by their wise leadership. At the end of every battle you can see our fighters proud and chanting their immortal slogan: God is great, it is God who grants victory. God is great, long live Iraq, God is great, long live the commander.

Every time the disappointed enemy tries to cover his deteriorating situation and claims even a small victory, our knights do not give the enemy even this chance. Instead, they destroy its forces and the scoundrels on whom the enemy depends become destroyed and burned bodies, humiliated captives, or remnants who escaped under a shower of fire.

Our citizens: At 1915 yesterday enemy patrols approached the fortified positions of the brave 'Izz al-Din Force. The enemy patrols were immediately wiped out by the fire of our brave fighters. At 2155 yesterday an enemy infantry brigade attacked the same heroic formation, but our brave forces confronted it and destroyed most of the attacking forces, using their ruthless fire, a fact which compelled the enemy to reinforce its force with two infantry regiments. But this did not benefit the charlatans. Our men of the heroic 'Izz al-Din formation destroyed the rest of the brigade. The enemy remnants fled.

At 0345, the enemy sent a new infantry brigade to attack the same heroic formation. A fierce battle took place in which the bulk of the enemy brigade was wiped out. Only those who reached one of the barriers and a small hill called Tallat al-Qannasin escaped death. The heroic 'Izz al-Din Forces continued to pour fierce fire on the enemy remnants, isolating them, and with the support of artillery fire inflicted the heaviest losses. The harvesting of the heads of the Khomeyniite regues continued until 0720 when our forces, backed by our artillery and armored corps, launched an offensive regaining the barrier and Tallat al-Qannasin. The situation was decided in favor of our heroic forces. One could only see the corpses of the enemy soldiers littering the battlefield with their souls dispatched to hell, which is the fate they deserve.

Elsewhere in the sector of the righteous and courageous Dhulfaqar Forces, the frustrated enemy sent a brigade of the charlatan Khomeyni Guards to attack the heroic Majid Force. The Majid Force confronted the enemy brigade with its fierce fire. The enemy force made contact with our forward positions using all types of weapons. Our forces wiped out majority of the enemy force, forcing the rest of the force to flee, pursued by artillery and mortar fire. The situation was decided in favor of our forces at 0700 today. At 0830 the enemy dispatched two infantry regiments against the same heroic Majid Force. The fighters of this valiant formation intercepted them and destroyed the two regiments at 1300 today. The enemy had earlier dispatched — in the same Dhulfaqar Forces sector — groups of its men to advance toward the positions of our heroic formations of the Nuri Force and the Jalal Force at 0500 today. The force was wiped out. Proud Iraqis, last night alone the enemy lost more than one division without gaining 1 inch of territory and our forces are in control of the situation, rejoicing over their victory and proud of the fact they have triumphed. May God bless the men of the heroic II Army Corps and the heroic Dhulfaqar Forces. May God bless the hero men of the infantry. Blessed be your hands, O valiant men of the armored corps. Glory to you, O loyal artillery men. May God bless you, men of the 'Izz al-Din Force, Majid Force, Nuri Force, and the Jalal Force. May God bless you, righteous men — commanders, officers, and other ranks. We ask God to guide your steps toward victory under the banner of leader Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him. We seek assistance from God.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 January 1987

Iranian Approach to Basra Denied

JN181417 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1400 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] A short while ago, Baghdad categorically denied that the Iranian forces were able to approach Basra. 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, director of the Political Guidance Department at the Iraqi Defense Ministry, said Iranian reports are baseless and are just attempts to hide their immense casualties east of Al-Basrah. He noted that the Iranian war machine was almost completely destroyed in this area and that the situation is now settled in favor of the Iraqi forces.

'Barbaric' Shelling of Basra

JN181448 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Basra, 18 Jan (INA) — Houses of worship and shrines in Basra have sustained damage as a result of the continuous barbaric Iranian shelling of the heroic city's quarters. As a result of the shelling, houses, schools, hospitals, shops, and public places were also damaged. A responsible source of the Basra Governorate said that the Grand Basra Mosque was hit by Iranian shells and that it was the fifth house of worship to be shelled by the Iranians, who also shelled Imam 'Abdallah ibn 'Ali's tomb, the Al-Musawi Mosque, the Adventist Church, the Syrian Catholic Church, and other mosques in the Abu al-Khasib District.

12 Iranian Tanks Destroyed

JN181527 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1420 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 18 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The scoundrel Khomeyniites will continue to be defeated, ignonimous, and accursed until doomsday. Their attempts to harm this homeland will be doomed to failure. Glorious Iraq is no one's property. It has not been and it will not be a target of arrows of hatred, for the forces of the racist anti-Arabs allied with Zionism will be destroyed on the solid wall of Iraq.

We will remain loyal to our history and will honestly defend our land and positions. The day nears when our enemy will admit defeat. Then our land will be full of pride and every citizen will be proud of what he has achieved in the battlefield and in the construction area.

In an attempt to hide their large scandal and the terrible losses inflicted by the heroic III Army Corps on them, the scoundrel Khomeyniites sent a force to attack one of our brave formations south of Al-Asmak Lake in the brave Al-Miqdad Forces operations sector at 0032 today. The men of this heroic formation confronted and annihilated the enemy force. At 0100 today the enemy continued its attempt against other units of our brave forces in the same sector, but the enemy personnel faced the same black fate of such evildoers. In addition to the losses in personnel, the following has been achieved:

1. The destruction of 12 enemy tanks.

2. The destruction of our boats carrying personnel.

3. The destruction of 6 vehicles and the damaging of 12 others.

4. The destruction of three shovels [preceding word in English].

5. The destruction of seven ammunition dumps.

Thus, the fighters of the Al-Miqdad Forces and their support forces prove they are loyal heroes and that they will continue to go ahead with their great harvest and to chop off all the heads on which the regime of hypocrites who have been disappointed and defeated depend. Blessed by your hands; O men; and carry out more thrusts to destroy the unjust people and play your honorable role in defending the homeland. It is God who grants success and support.

[Dated] 18 January 1987

Communique No 2,533

JN181601 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1458 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,533 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great, O birds of prey, follow us to the battlefield. The day of reckoning for the Khomeyniite scoundrels is very close. The hour we warned them about has come. Today we prove to them we have the upper hand because we are believers. Today we prove to them our punishment is harsh and comperehensive and that they will not be able to stave off God's lorment and the Iraqi punishment. Today we assure them Iraq carries out its promises. Today our Air Force — leadership, pilots, officers, and other ranks — proves to them it is the sword of the truth brandished in the face of tyrants and that it is a powerful hammer and a sweeping storm which has no mercy on evildoers and aggressors.

O proud Iraqis, in view of the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing war and aggression against our international borders and on shelling residential areas in our cities, your sons have carried out the following missions:

1. As we stated in the military spokesman's statement, our planes pounded four missile batteries between 0730 and 0753 today.

2. As we stated in the same statement, a great number of our planes at 0530 today embarked on a mission to mete out Iraqi punishment, retaliation, and deterrence to the folloiwng cities: a) Qom, b) Esfahan, c) Tabriz, and d) Dezful.

3. At 1030 today our planes pounded another Hawk surface-to-air missile battery east of Karun [River].

4. At 1500 today our planes again pounced on the city of Dezful.

5. At 1545 today our planes pounded the city of Masjed-e Soleyman.

6. At the same time other planes pounced on the city of Sanandaj.

7. At the same time a number of our planes pounded the city of Ilam.

8. At the same time a number of our planes destroyed Shahabad [Eslamabad].

9. At the same time other planes pounced on the Qotur bridge.

10. At 1630 today our planes raided Esfahan again to further destroy the city.

11. At 1635 today a number of our planes pounded the city of Borujerd.

12. At the same time another group of our planes tore up Nahavand city.

13. At the same time a number of our planes struck the city of (?miluyeh), turning it into ruins.

Having pounded their targets which are spread over a large area deep inside Iran, destroying the roofs of crime, evil, and rancor on the heads of those who dwell under them, our pilots returned to the homeland safely, carrying good tidings of victory to the great Iraqi people.

This is true Iraq, O Khomeyniite knaves. These are Iraq's deeds and strikes. By God, we will make ruin and destruction your daily bread until we throw you into the garbage can of history.

Blessed are our great Air Force men — leadership, pilots, officers, and men. Blessed are you, O great sons of a great leader and a most merciful father, President Saddam Husayn. God is great. From him we receive support.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 Janaury 1987

Communique No 2,534

JN181841 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1728 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Military Communique No 2,534 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their combat activities, confronting the disappointed enemy's attempts, inflicting upon it heavy losses, destroying its gun emplacements and defenses, and demolishing its dens. Our fighters become more determined everyday to crush the aggressors and protect the homeland from the designs of the covetous, enlightened by God's teachings and our wise leadership's instructions.

The following are activities for last night and today:

1. The scoundrel Khomeyniites will continue to be defeated, ignominous, and accursed until doomsday. Their attempts to harm this homeland will be doomed to failure. Glorious Iraq is no one's property. It has not been and will not be a target of arrows of hatred, for the forces of the racist anti-Arabs allied with Zionism will be destroyed on the solid wall of Iraq.

We will continue to be loyal to our history and to honestly defend our land and positions. The day on which our enemy will admit defeat is near. Then our land will be full of pride and every citizen will be proud of what he has achieved in the battlefield and in the construction area.

In an attempt to hide their large scandal and the terrible losses inflicted on them by the heroic III Army Corps, the scoundrel Khomeyniites sent a force to attack one of our brave formations south of Al-Asmak Lake in the brave Al-Miqdad Forces operations sector at 0032 today. The men of this heroic formation confronted and annihilated the enemy force. At 0100 today the enemy continued its attempt against other units of our brave forces in the same sector, but the enemy personnel faced the same black fate of such evildoers. In addition to the losses in personnel, the following has been achieved:

a. The destruction of 12 tanks.

b. The destruction of four boats carrying personnel.

c. The destruction of 6 vehicles and the damaging of 12 others.

d. The destruction of three shovels [preceding word in English]

e. The destruction of seven ammunition dumps.

Thus, the fighters of the Al-Miqdad Forces and their support forces prove they are loyal heroes and they will continue to go ahead with their great harvest and to chop off all the heads on which the regime of hypocrites, who have been disappointed and defeated, depend. Blessed be your hands, O men, and carry out more thrusts to destroy the unjust people and play your honorable role in defending the homeland. It is God who grants success and support.

2. Our heroic Air Force will continue to defy the enemy in its own den by attacking its remnants, destroying its vital targets, inflicting daily losses on its troops, positions, and weapons, and even by defying its air defenses supplied by world Zionism. Our Air Force carried out 296 combat missions today, destroying scores of enemy artillery emplacements, vehicles, personnel positions, weapons, and equipment. After carrying out all these missions, our brave hawks returned safely and proud to the homeland protected by God. Congratulations to our Air Force for its daily victories.

3. The brave helicopter pilots are also playing their heroic role in destroying the enemy and in giving the best support to our victorious units as they confront the vile enemy in defense of the land, honor, and dignity. The brave helicopter knights carried out 206 combat sorties, attacking large enemy concentrations, weapons, equipment, and vehicles. After carrying our their sorties our hawks returned safely to base with their planes. God be praised.

4. Our capable units in the heroic VII Army Corps front dealt concentrated blows to inflict punishment on the scoundrels and destroy their weapons and equipment. They inflicted the following losses on the enemy:

a. The destruction of 11 vehicles, some of them carrying personnel and equipment.

b. The destruction of one tank.

c. The destruction of one shovel and two excavators [not further identified].

d. The killing of 18 scoundrel Khomeyniites.

e. The destruction and burning of seven ammunition dumps.

f. The destruction of 14 shelters.

God bless the men of the heroic VII Army Corps.

5. The criminal Iranian enemy shelled residential areas in the steadfast city of Basra with long-range artillery, martyring 8 citizens, including 3 children, and wounding 28 citizens, including 3 children and 4 women. An enemy plane also hit residential areas in the 'Aqrah District, martyring one citizen and wounding six others, including two children and one woman. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and quick recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 January 1987

RCC, Command Meeting Held

JN181941 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] A joint meeting of the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command was held this evening under leader President Saddam Husayn. The 3-hour meeting reviewed the course and results of the recent epic battles waged by our brave Armed Forces in the III and II Army Corps sectors. In addition to the two Army corps' forces and the other support forces, our capable Air Force also participated in a distinguished manner.

The meeting also analyzed all the aspects of these battles and their military and political repercussions. The meeting also hailed the bravery and capability of our Armed Forces in crushing and foiling the enemy's evil intentions against great Basra. Our brave Armed Forces managed to repulse the enemy's series of offensives one by one — offensives for which tens of thousands of scoundrelas were prepared and amassed by the enemy in the past several months — and to inflict huge losses which are viewed as a real disaster for the enemy and its capability of continuing to do evil and to carry out its aggressions.

Our heroic Armed Forces, which enjoy high morale, a distinguished military capability, and which have sufficient troops and weapons, are capable with God's help of crushing any new enemy attempts and of crushing its strategic plans which were drawn up in coordination with its Zionist allies and imperialist circles. Iraq will remain strong and proud with its militant Army and generous people.

Mubarak, Husayn Call on War

JN182129 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2110 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] President Saddam Husayn today received a telephone call from his brother Egyptian President Husni Mubarak inquiring about the situation on the battle front with the Iranian enemy. President Saddam Husayn asserted to his brother President Husni Mubarak that the Iraqi military situation is solid and reassured him of Iraq's ability to crush and destroy the Tehran rulers' evil intentions against Iraq and also to foil the Iranian regime's aggressive intentions.

President Saddam Husayn also had a telephone conversation with his brother His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan today to reassure him of the firmness of the Iraqi military situation on the battlefront and also about foiling the Terharn rulers' aggressive intentions. President Saddam Husayn asserted to His Majesty King Husayn that the Iraqi forces are able to destroy any attempt by the Iranian regime forces to harm Iraq and its proud people.

19 Jan Reportage

JN190700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0605 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has asserted that Iraqi units are controlling the military situation in the southern sector in a manner which calls for satisfaction and reassurance.

Staff Brigadier General 'Abd Shinan al-Ribat, commander of the Al-Miqdad Forces on the III Army Corps front, said the Iraqi formations have foiled all of the Iranian forces attempts to ease pressure on their collapsing remnants which sustained, and continue to daily sustain, massive losses in men and equipment. In a statement in today's edition of Al-Qadisiyah, organ of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, he added that the Iraqi units are fully prepared to destroy the Iranian forces which imagined they could encroach on Iraq.

In a related development, the Al-Miqdad Forces chief of staff, who holds the rank of brigadier general, said that the Iraqi formations foiled three attempts by the Iranian forces the night before last without enabling them to achieve their aims. He added that the Iraqi units destroyed 11 divisions of Khomeyni guards and 3 brigades, in addition to an armored brigade from the 92d Division of the regular Army.

The military commander ridiculed the Iranian regime's claims about its advance toward Basra and said: We defy them from these forward positions to prove that. Basra will remain chaste, safeguarded, and secure from the Tehran rulers' evils.

Communique No 2,435

JN191824 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,435 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people. O sons of the glorious Arab nation. The following is a roundup of the activities for last night and today:

1. Although the heroes of the III Army Corps and the forces incorporated within it from our valiant Armed Forces crushed the successive waves of barbarism and charlatanry and turned them into piles of corpses, and although the courageous confrontation by our forces has foiled the enemy's intentions, and Basra with its glory and people continued to be out of the reach of the invaders, and although nothing was left for the enemy to heal his deep wounds, despite all that, it was clear that the enemy had not yet completed its series of acts of aggression, for he was keeping in store remnants of his evil forces estimated at 30,000-40,000 of the charlatan's guards [Islamic Revolution Guards]. They are all that remains of the striking force the enemy prepared for 1 year or more. Therefore, it was clear to us that the enemy would repeat his abortive attempts in that direction. Our expectations were correct, for the enemy repeated his attempt at 1930 last night against a part of our defenses in the Al-Miqdad Forces sector, where an honorable battle took place in which the heroes of the 44th and 704th brigades, supported and assisted on the flanks by the heroic 18th Infantry Brigade, demonstrated a unique courage and a spirit of determination, steadfastness, and daring. The heroes of Iraq were victorious. They harvested the successive waves of the enemy. They stood fast in their positions, harvesting the enemies' heads. The enemy will meet with the same fate if he should repeat the attempt. He will find the hearts of our men,

as is their wont, full of belief in God and in principles and loyal to the homeland's soil, and will find our men brave and capable of crushing the aggressors.

As before, the activities of this front were commanded by the headquarters of the heroic 11th Division, and not the headquarters of the 5th Division, as the enemy announced in his official communique.

The size of the force that attacked our defensive positions there amounted to eight divisions of the charlatan's guards, and not six divisions, as the enemy announced in his official communique. Praise be to God for his victory.

2. Our heroic Air Force achieves new feats every day in which it strikes at the aggressors, destroys their positions and weapons, and pounds their citizens in revenge for their aggression against our country and to punish the scoundrel Khomeyniites for shelling our cities. Our aircraft today carried out 390 combat missions in which they inflicted enormous losses on the aggressors and provided strong support to our ground forces. Moreover, they achieved the following:

A. At 1130 today, our aircraft attacked Dezful.

B. At 1145 today, our aircraft attacked Tabriz.

C. At 1200 today, our aircraft dealt a heavy blow to Esfahan.

D. At the same time, our aircraft attacked Qom.

E. At 1438 today, great numbers of our aircraft attacked Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

F. At the same time, our aircraft were attacking Shahabad [Eslamabad].

G. A great number of other aircraft carried out violent raids on the Saqqez camp and ammunition dumps.

After demolishing the dens of tyranny and aggression, our daring pilots returned with their aircraft to base safe and victorious, protected by God.

3. The heroic Dhulfaqar Forces in the valiant II Army Corps sector repulsed several attacks by the enemy which used a force larger than one infantry brigade. Our brave forces succeeded in inflicting on the Khomeyniite scoundrels a great many casualties, dead or wounded. The scoundrels' attempt ended in miserable failure, for only a few survived and those few fled pursued by the fire of the forces of justice.

It has been confirmed to us that the enemy's losses in men on the night of 17-18 January opposite only one formation of the Dhulfaqar Forces totaled 1,400 dead. Moreover, our units in the same sector killed 188 enemy personnel in various positions of the sector. Four tanks, 10 shovels, and 3 vehicles were destroyed, and large quantities of weapons and equipment which the enemy had left behind following the battle on the night of 17-18 January were seized. May God bless the men of the heroic Dhulfaqar Forces of the valiant Al-Yarmuk Forces.

4. The brave helicopter pilots of the Army's airborne division today carried out 166 combat missions in which they wiped out numerous enemy troop concentrations, weapons, and equipment and provided strong support to our valiant ground forces. They returned safely with their helicopters to base, praise be to God.

5. The men of the heroic VII Army Corps acheived the following:

A. They destroyed 13 enemy vehicles.

B. They killed 72 enemy personnel.

C. They destroyed 12 ammunition dumps.

D. They destroyed four mortar guns.

E. They destroyed one tank, burned one shovel, and destroyed six different positions and four observation posts.

In another part of the sector the heroes annihilated a large number of enemy personnel with artillery, tanks, and mortars. Blessed be the soldiers of the VII Army Corps.

6. Our navy destroyed an enemy command ship and sank it.

7. The criminal enemy shelled Basra with long-range artillery, killing one civilian and wounding seven others.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 January 1987

Esfahan, Tabriz, Dezful Hit

JN192042 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2031 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 19 Janaury]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Continuing to implement the will of the Iraqi people in severely punishing the aggressors, and in view of the persistence of the Iranian regime in continuing the war and the aggression and shelling residential areas, aircraft from our Air Force carried out the following heroic missions:

1. At 2220 today our aircraft carried out a devastating raid on Esfahan.

2. At the same time, other aircraft carried out a devastating raid on Tabriz.

3. At the same time, our aircraft attacked Dezful.

After demolishing the Khomeyniites' dens over their heads, all our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 19 January 1987.

Missile Hits Baghdad 20 Jan

JN200743 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0727 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 20 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 0330 today, the criminal Iranian enemy fired one of its missiles on Baghdad, which was supplied to it by those who claim to be Arabs, the Arab nation's traitors, and its colleagues in agentry to Zionism. The incident led to the martyrdom of several civilian citizens, to the wounding of several others, and to damaging the houses of some civilian citizens and a number of shops.

[Dated] 20 January 1987.

Iranian Advance Denied

JN200638 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0533 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has stated that Muhammad al-Qasim formations and the forces incorporated with them are prepared to crush all Iranian attempts in the III Army Corps sector in southern Iraq. In a statement published by *Al-Qadisiyah* today, the commander of the Muhammad al-Qasim Forces, stressed that his forces are in control of the situation and are inflicting heavy losses on the Iranian equipment and personnel without allowing the enemy forces to achieve their expansionist aims.

He refuted Iranian claims about advancing toward Basra and said: These are mere baseless claims and cheap lies to which we and the world have become accostomed. He added that the Iraqi forces are ready to crush the Iranian human waves and that Basra will remain Iraq's beloved port guarded by the Iraqi soldiers' eyes and hands. In a press statement published today, Staff Lieutenant General Ahmad al-Ma'ini, commander of the II Army Corps, has said that the Iranian scheme in the central sector has ended in abysmal failure and complete defeat and that the Iranian forces sustained massive losses in men and equipment.

He said: We were aware of the Iranians' evil intentions to mount an offensive in Dhulfaqar and Great Badr Forces' sectors and we were not taken by surprise. We drew up a plan securing the annihilation of the attacking forces and the quick settlement of the battle in our favor. He added that from 13-18 January the Iranian losses amounted to five divisions and some formations from the Khomeyni guards, in addition to a large number of captives and wounded.

Air Strike on 4 Cities

JN200813 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0752 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 20 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In reply to the charlatan regime's insistence on continuing their aggression against our international border and to punish this regime for its strange practice of attacking purely residential areas in Baghdad and Basra, our gigantic Air Force planes, 0530 today simultaneously carried out violent and destructive raids on the following Iranian cities:

1. The city of Qom.

2. Hamadan.

3. Tabriz.

4. Esfahan.

After destroying the dens over the heads of devils, the valiant hawks of the sky returned with their planes to the homeland with God's victory. Glory to God, the best of helpers.

[Dated] 20 January 1987

More Reportage on Waite's Mission on Hostages

Meets Hizballah's Fadlallah

NC162030 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpt] At 1930 today, Terry Waite, envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury, paid a visit to scholar Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah [Hizballah spiritual guide]. After the meeting, Fadlallah said: We were happy to meet with Waite. The hostages issue has a humanitarian dimension. However, it has become a political matter because of the complicated situation. We both agree that the humanitarian approach is the one to pursue.

For his part, Terry Waite said: We had important discussions on the foreign hostages in Lebanon. The best way to resolve the issue, he added, is to adopt the humanitarian approach. We agreed that we would do our best to resolve the issue. [passage omitted]

Meets With Al-Huss

NC171319 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Forme Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss met with Terry Waite, envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury today, and discussed the hostage problem. After the meeting, Waite said: Our discussion was useful. All those with whom I have met are concerned about this problem. I am convinced they are doing their utmost to solve it. Asked about the publication of photographs of two hostages in some newspapers today, Waite said: I believe this is a positive sign. I am glad, because this shows they are still alive.

Al-Huss also met with Muhammad Shuqayr, adviser to the president of the Republic. He affirmed after the meeting that a Lebanese-Syrian summit is imminent. He praised the deployment of Syrian forces at the airport.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Can you brief us on your meeting today with Terry Waite? Did he bring any specific information?

[Al-Huss] I discussed with Dr Terry Waite his mission in Lebanon, which is to try to bring about the release of the foreign hostages in Lebanon. We expressed our support to him and wished him success. We, of course, strongly denounce the kidnapping of foreigners and Lebanese. Kidnapping people is abominable and inhuman, and we hope it will cease permanently. We also hope that all foreign and Lebanese detainees will be released. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Holds News Conference

NC191852 Paris AFP in English 1850 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Beirut, Jan 19 (AFP) — Church of England mediator Terry Waite, nearing the end of a week-long mission to Beirut to try to free more Western hostages, expressed rising optimism Monday about their fate.

"I think, eventually, the prospect is good," Mr. Waite, the archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, said at a press conference.

But, he cautioned, "Events change so dramatically."

"I came here at the beginning of the week", he said, "and during the course of the week, two persons holding Lebanese passports have been arrested, one in Germany and the other in Italy. That brings a whole new factor into the situation."

A West German businessman, Rudolf Cordes, disappeared in West Beirut last Saturday. Press reports in West Germany said he was abducted, and suggested his kidnappers were seeking to exchange him for a suspected Lebanese terrorist arrested in Frankfurt last week.

Mr. Waite, who had been expected to leave Beirut Monday, said he would probably delay departure by a day in order to continue "private discussions," on which he did not elaborate.

He also cited a flare-up in street battles that Monday had made it impossible for him to leave his hotel, in Beirut's Moslem-dominated western sector.

Mr. Waite said he divided hostages into two categories — those, like the 18 Westerners currently listed as kidnapped in Lebanon, who had been snatched for political reasons. And those, chiefly the 2,000 Lebanese kidnap victims, who were being held for ransom.

He thought his efforts could best help the foreign hostages, especially "those with whom I have a direct relationship with those who are holding them."

He added that he was "definitely" having direct contacts with kidnappers, but urged the press corps to "hold off at certain times."

"There was a story in the press which I read that I have been shopping in Beirut for shoes. Anyone who has got size 14 shoes does not go shopping in Beirut for shoes," he commented.

"I think even simple speculation is dangerous — therefore I have to able to travel and meet people quietly."

Since his arrival in Beirut last Monday Mr. Waite has met most of the country's Moslem leaders, including Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, often described as the spiritual leader of the pro-Iranian Hizballah (Party of God), Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Druze leader Walid Junblatt.

He has also met the families of kidnap victims, both Western and Lebanese. During his stay, two more Westerners, Mr. Cordes, an executive for the West German chemical firm Hoechst, and French photo-journalist Roger Auque have disappeared.

'Observers' Expect Hostage Releases

NC200847 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The American CBS television network has reported that Terry Waite has made progress in his mission to Lebanon. Terry Waite has declared that he met with members of the Islamic Jihad Organization. Observers expect the two Americans, Anderson and Sutherland, to be released.

Reportedly Extends Stay

NC201221 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1145 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Terry Waite, the Anglican Church envoy, today announced that he has had new talks with the kidnappers holding foreign hostages in Lebanon. He added he will continue his mission to secure the release of these hostages. Although it was thought he had already left Beirut, Waite appeared at his hotel in West Beirut. In a telephone conversation with a correspondent early today, he said current events had dictated that he should remain in Beirut. He added he had postponed his departure following talks with the kidnappers last night. He stated he was unable to determine when he would be leaving Lebanon. When asked if he had had face-to-face talks [with the kidnappers], Waite replied in the affirmative. However, he declined to give any further details.

Eyewitnesses said Waite left his hotel at 2100 last night, shortly after he had informed journalists of his intention to end his week-long mission.

Waite left the Riviera Hotel escorted by his bodyguards this morning. However, he returned an hour later.

DPA: FRG Company Director Kidnapped in Beirut

LD181409 Hamburg DPA in German 1326 GMT
18 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Hamburg (DPA) [not date as received] — The managing director of the Hoechst AG company in Beirut, Dr Rudolf Cordes, disappeared this weekend and has apparently been kidnapped, it has been learned from Bonn security circles. According to the Foreign Ministry on Sunday afternoon, an anonymous caller contacted the FRG Embassy in Beirut and said a German citizen had been kidnapped. The Foreign Ministry notified the security authorities and formed a crisis management team. No demands have yet been made by the abductors.

According to a report in the newspaper *Die Welt*, Cordes flew to Beirut from Frankfurt on Saturday, arriving there at approximately 1900 (local time). He had not, however, arrived at his hotel. Instead, a call had been received by the FRG Embassy saying that Cordes and those with him had been ambushed. The report goes on to say that Cordes may have taken as a hostage to force the release of the Lebanese Mohammed Ali Hamadei, who was arrested at Frankfurt airport last Tuesday. Hamadei had 3 liters of a highly explosive liquid in gas flasks in his hand luggage.

According to security circles in Beirut, Cordes' car was boxed in by two others. The manager was then pulled from the car by several heavily armed men and abducted. The driver was not harmed. He then immediately reported the kidnapping.

According to Hoechst, the 53-year-old Cordes had represented the Frankfurt firm for many years in Beirut. [passage omitted]

Cordes travelled regularly on business to Lebanon, but was not stationed there permanently. Hoechst currently knew nothing about the fate of the kidnapped man, a company spokesman said.

Following the kidnapping, the Foreign Ministry has once again warned all Federal citizens against travelling to Lebanon.

Because of the complicated political situation, Bonn had for some time warned against travelling there.

According to a Foreign Ministry spokesman, the Ministry is in permanent contact with the Federal Republic's Embassy in Beirut, which is currently doing everything possible to clarify the affair on the spot. Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher also has been brought in.

Reportedly Held by Hizballah

LD191948 Hamburg DPA in German 1906 GMT
19 Jan 87

[Text] Luxembourg, 19 Jan (DPA) — The commercial television station RTL Plus reported in a newscast this evening that Rudolf Cordes, the Hoechst manager who was kidnapped in Beirut on Saturday, is being held by the Hizballah Shi'ite fundamentalist terrorist organization. It said that Hezbollah had telephoned Beirut Domestic radio at 2330 on Sunday night and demanded the release of 'Ali Hamadi, the Lebanese man held in the FRG, in exchange for Cordes.

The pro-Iranian Hezbollah is said to receive its instructions from Iran. RTL Plus reported that, according to information from Beirut, Hamadi is a member of Hizballah.

Whereabouts Unknown

LD191240 Hamburg DPA in German 1123 GMT
19 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Bonn/Beirut, 19 Jan (DPA) — There is as yet no trace of Hoechst manager Rudolf Cortes, who was abducted in Beirut over the weekend. The Foreign Ministry said in Bonn on Monday that the FRG Embassy in Beirut has no clues whatever at present to the current whereabouts of the 53-year-old man. No demand has been received there thus far, nor is anything known about the identity of the abductors.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman could not confirm reports from the Lebanese capital that preparations are being made for an evacuation of approximately 200 Germans living in Beirut. According to these reports, the FRG citizens have been called upon by the German Embassy to leave their homes and be ready near the embassy for a possible evacuation.

However, the Foreign Ministry pointed out that the Germans living in Lebanon have been warned to take extreme care since the arrest of Lebanese plane hijacker 'Ali Hamadi at Frankfurt airport last week. However, because of family reasons, many have refused to leave the country, which has been in the throes of civil war for years.

Whether there is any link between the kidnapping of the Hoechst manager and the arrest of Hamadi is still not clear. It is not being ruled out in Bonn that an attempt may be made to force Hamadi's release in exchange for the Hoeckst executive. [passage omitted]

It also was learned in Bonn on Monday that technical talks were held over the weekend between FRG Justice Ministry officials and representatives of the U.S. Embassy in Bonn on the procedure for a possible extradition of Hamadi to the United States. The talks concerned the papers still needed for a decision to be made by the German courts. [passage omitted]

On Monday, Justice Ministry Spokesman Juergen Schmid described the extradition request as "desirable" in principle. However, not all the necessary papers have yet been received from the United States. They will then go to the Hesse prosecutor-general, who must put the extradition request before the Frankfurt Higher Regional Court. Only after the proceedings before this court, at which Hamadi has a right to be heard, can the Federal Government decide whether to allow the extradition or not. [passage omitted]

Group Releases Hostage Photos, Threatens Summit

NC170756 Paris AFP in English 0749 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, Jan 17 (AFP) — The Lebanese Organization of Revolutionary Justice (ORJ) has released photographs of two U.S. hostages which it claims to hold, the *Al-Nahar* newspaper said here on Saturday.

The paper said the polaroid pictures, of Joseph Cicippio, 56, and Edward Austin Tracy, 55, were delivered to its office late on Friday night.

The pro-Iranian group released no statement with the photos, but it issued a separate declaration late on Friday warning that it would "punish" any countries who took part in the coming meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

Attendance at the meeting, which is due to start on January 26, would constitute "high treason" and would be "punished at the appropriate time", the statement said.

It was not immediately possible to see the hostage photos, but the paper said Mr. Cicippio, who was kidnapped from his work-place at the American University here on September 12 last year, was bearded and wearing a dark-coloured jacket with a badge displaying an eagle.

Mr. Tracy, a book-salesman who was abducted on October 21 last year, appeared more relaxed than Mr. Cicippio. He was wearing a similar jacket, the paper said. [passage omitted]

In its statement on the OIC conference, the ORJ said the summit meeting would be used by the United States to regain its influence in the Middle East. This would be facilitated by Kuwait, "which is working to achieve America's aims," the Arabic-language statement said.

Kuwait is an ally of Iraq in its six-year-old war with Iran. It also holds several prisoners claimed by pro-Iranian Lebanese groups and convicted for carrying out terrorist attacks in Kuwait.

"In the name of justice and the punishment of traitors, we declare that the rulers of Kuwait must end their policies," the statement said.

"The holding of this summit is high treason, in which nobody should have a part, otherwise we promise to punish them at the appropriate time.

"Participants in the summit still have time to change their positions," it added.

Al-Jumayyil, Former Presidents Hold Meeting

NC170929 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] [Words indistinct] Lebanese Army troops and Al-Maradah forces [Franiyah's militia], the meeting of President Amin al-Jumayyil and former Presidents Camille Sham'un, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Charles Hilu began at 0950 today in Smar Jubayl. This is their first meeting in 16 months. Today's round of talks will be divided into two parts: The first session will be held before noon, and the second in the afternoon, after a working luncheon. Former President Sham'un may leave after the first session for health reasons.

President al-Jumayyil is accompanied by Minister Joseph al-Hashim and Army Commander General Michel 'Awn; President Hilu by Maronite League Chairman Shakir Abu Sulayman and Bar Association Chairman 'Isam Karam; President Sham'un by Deputy Michel Sasin and Marun Hilu; and President Franjiyah by his son Robert and Ramiz al-Khazin. Hilu, Sham'un, and Al-Jumayyil arrived at the Scouts City in Al-Batrun by helicopter, while President Franjiyah arrived by car. A Lebanese Army unit saluted each leader as he arrived.

Earlier, President al-Jumayyil visited the patriarchate seat and met with Patriarch Mar Nasrallah Butrus Sfayr, who expressed hope that the Smar Jubayl meeting will serve the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese.

Meeting Ends; No Statement

NC171448 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil held a meeting in Smar Jubayl today with former Presidents Camille Sham'un, Charles Hilu, and Sulayman Franjiyah. A number of advisers also participated in the meeting. The session ended at 1150; no official statement was issued. Former Presidents Sham'un and Hilu, however, shared the view that the outcome of the meeting was positive.

President Meets Envoys to Damascus; No Statement

NC191438 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil held a short meeting with former Minister Elie Salim and Colonel Simon Qasis, his envoys to Damascus, at 1400 today. No announcement about the proposed Lebanese-Syrian summit was made after the meeting.

It has been learned that the exchanges between Syria and Lebanon are continuing, and that the Syrians have asked for a little time to study President al-Jumayyil's responses, conveyed to Damascus by his envoys. The president is scheduled to meet with the envoys again tonight to be briefed on the details of their talks with the Syrian officials.

Israeli Gunboats Fire on Palestinian Positions

NC190650 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] In a new development this morning, Israeli gunboats bombarded Palestinian positions located among the Maghdushah hills, Sirub, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, and 'Ayn al-Hulwah. The bombardment began at 0530 this morning and continued until 0745.

Bombardment Wounds 6

NC190951 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] According to preliminary reports, six people were wounded during this morning's bombardment of Palestinian positions in Maghdushah, Sirub, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah by Israeli Naval units.

Palestinian sources have reported that six Israeli gunboats bombarded Maghdushah, the area's western slopes, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, and the outskirts of 'Ayn al-Hulwah. The Israelis used phosphorous bombs which make a column of smoke to determine the targets, these sources added. A reconnaissance plane also flew over the area to locate the targets.

According to Fatah sources, Amal took advantage of this bombardment to shell Palestinian positions on the (Jaysh al-Tahrir) hill from Tanburit and 'Anqun.

Further Naval Bombardment

NC191422 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Israeli warships cruising off the coast of Sidon have been bombarding Palestinian positions in Maghdushah and the Darb al-Sim hills for approximately an hour now. These positions have also been subjected to artillery shelling from emplacements belonging to the occupation forces in Al-'Ayshiyah and Jabal Safi.

Israeli-Syrian Military Movements in Al-Biqa'

NC172202 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] According to reports from Western al-Biqa', there is tension in the area, as well as military movements by Syrian and Israeli forces along the line separating the two armies, particularly in the vicinity of the Litani River. Limited tank artillery gunfire is reported to have taken place.

Syrian Force in Place at Beirut Airport

NC170818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] A Syrian force was deployed at the main entrances to and sensitive areas of the Beirut International Airport at 0830 today. The deployment was carried out in coordination with the airport security department to ensure free movement by all citizens. A coordination meeting will be held before noon today between airport security officials and Syrian officers.

100 Libyans Reportedly Back Fatah in Maghdushah

NC200805 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] According to a Fatah military source in Sidon, 100 personnel from the Libyan Revolutionary Popular Committees went to Maghdushah yesterday and took up positions near the Fatah fighters there.

Fourth Round of Syrian-Lebanese Talks Conclude

JN191354 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The fourth round of official Syrian-Lebanese talks concluded at noon today. Dr Elie Salim, Colonel Simon Qassis, and adviser Nicola Nasr participated in the talks for Lebanon and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' for Syria. The Lebanese delegation returned to Damascus yesterday. A morning session and a long evening session, which continued until late at night, were held. The talks dealt with defining the concept of participation. This morning a third and final session was held for 2 hours; afterwards, the Lebanese delegation left for Beirut aboard a military helicopter to present a report to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

In another development, Saudi businessman Rafiq al-Hariri arrived in Damascus late last night. This morning he met with Dr Elie Salim who briefed him on the talks held between the Syrian and Lebanese sides in preparation for a Syrian-Lebanese summit.

We have learned from the Lebanese delegation sources that there are still some points that require continued discussion, study, and consultation. They added that the atmosphere is positive and characterized by a spirit of high responsibility and a desire to reach a true national reconciliation to end the bloodshed in Lebanon, from which Lebanon and Syria are suffering. I have also learned that there is need for further contacts, discussions, and meetings between the Syrian and Lebanese sides. However, the next round of talks, that is, the fifth round, will not be held the day after tomorrow, Wednesday, as was agreed upon, but shortly after the Islamic summit conference in Kuwait. The Lebanese delegation sources attributed this to the departure of Faruq al-Shar' for Kuwait to participate in the foreign ministers' meeting in preparation for the Islamic summit.

In a related development, Robert Franjiyah paid a brief visit to Damascus yesterday, during which he met with Faruq al-Shar' before he returned to Zgharta in the afternoon. The visit was to exchange viewpoints on the latest developments, particularly the Smar Jubayl meeting. Lebanese Interior Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi will visit Damascus on Wednesday at the invitation of his Syrian counterpart Muhammad Ghabbash.

On another level, we received statements from the DFLP, the PFLP, and the Fatah uprising movement denouncing the assassination attempt against Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization. The DFLP said the attempt to assassinate Mustafa Sa'd and Abu al-Haytham, official in charge of security in the PSP, was intended to be the spark that would explode the overall situation in Sidon and along the coastal road.

In a telephone contact with our radio, Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri also denounced these two assassination attempts and said: We thank God that Abu al- Haytham's injury is slight. Regarding the situation in western Beirut, Birri said: The situation is very painful and we are trying all means to stop what is happening in Beirut.

Khaddam Returns to Damascus From PRC 19 Jan

JN192047 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus today following an official and friendly visit to the PRC during which he held talks with PRC President Li Xiannian; Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council; and Wan Li, vice premier of the State Council.

In their talks they dealt with a number of issues of interest to the two sides, foremost among which are the international situation, issues connected with the Middle East crisis, and bilateral relations. PRC officials expressed their great appreciation for the prominent role played by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting Zionist aggression and imperialist threats. They emphasized PRC support for Syria and its struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territory and to regain usurped Arab rights.

Vice President Khaddam arrived in Beijing on 12 January in response to an official invitation from the Chinese leaders. He headed a delegation that included Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, and 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs. The vice president was accorded an official welcome in Beijing. He was received by Vice Premier Wan Li.

Premier Zhao Ziyang hosted an official banquet in Khaddam's honor, during which speeches were exchanged. The speech expressed the interest of the two sides in developing relations between the two countries and PRC support for the struggle of Syria and the Arabs against the plots of imperialism and Zionism.

The vice president visited a number of Chinese cities and installations and acquainted himself with some aspects of the Chinese experience in building socialism.

In a statement to the media, Khaddam expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit and talks. He said that his talks with PRC officials will help strengthen the relations between the two countries.

Communique Issued on Soviet Delegation's Visit

JN192024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] A joint communique was issued this afternoon to mark the visit to the country by a delegation of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers led by Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the council. The communique expressed the delegation's appreciation and admiration for the Syrian masses' support for the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. The communique noted that the Soviet delegation met with President al-Asad and Vice President Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah. The talks that the delegation held in Damascus, the communique said, were useful, dealing with bilateral cooperation to pool the efforts of all the Muslims and the faithful in the two countries in the interest of peace and to check the spread of nuclear weapons.

The Soviet side reiterated the total solidarity of the USSR with the Syrian Arab people. The two sides stressed that a just peace in the Middle East is attainable through sincere joint efforts within the framework of an international conference. They expressed their support for the Soviet proposal in this regard. The Soviet and Syrian sides, added the communique, were prepared to work to convene the preparatory committee that emerged from the Baku World Islamic Conference and to help its ministry of trusts study all potential contributions by the Muslims for peace and a solution to the Middle East question.

Science, Education Protocol Signed With Poland

JN181205 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] A protocol for scientific and educational cooperation between the Syrian and Polish Ministries of Higher Education was signed yesterday evening. The protocol was signed for the Syrian side by Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of higher education, and on the Polish side by Dr Benon Miskiewicz, Polish science and higher education minister.

The protocol stipulates continued cooperation in implementing the executive program of the educational agreement and the dispatch of additional university tutors to obtain higher degrees required for appointment to academic staffs.

After the signing, Dr Kamal Sharaf delivered a speech in which he thanked the guest minister for his visit and its positive results. He hoped that bilateral cultural and scientific relations will be promoted to the level of the existing bilateral political relations.

The guest minister replied with a speech in which he thanked all of the officials he met for their good welcome. He affirmed his country's readiness to promote relations between Syria and Poland in the interests of the two friendly countries and of just peace in the world.

AL-BA'TH Views U.S. Envoys' Middle East Tours

JN161026 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 16 Jan 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "U.S. Envoys and Aid to Israel," the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says in its editorial: The U.S. envoys have presented to the White House their proposals as well as the results of their explorations and talks in our region. Those envoys took a joint viewpoint that peace in the Middle East can only be achieved by extending further financial and military aid to Israel. It seems those envoys roamed the region only to give justifications to U.S. Congressional committees to turn increased aid to Israel into a very urgent issue in U.S. foreign policy. The invitation extended to the Zionist leader to hold talks in Washington on this aid has been the only otucome of the tours made by Richard Murphy, by Senate members, and by the assistant U.S. defense secretary.

Al-Ba'th continues: Every Israeli receives $1,200 in U.S. aid per year, and U.S. donations to Israel are allocated to support settlements and settlers in the occupied Arab territories. It is also noted that Israel has a share in every weapon manufactured by U.S. war industries. Hence, what can make an Arab have any confidence in U.S. policy or in the tours made by U.S. envoys? It is illogical to believe that Arabs are not aware of these facts.

While depriving the Arab people of their countries' resources for the sake of supporting Israel, the U.S. Administration is condemned not only on the Arab level but also on the international level. [sentence as heard] But can such condemnation change the situation? What will change this situation is an Arab stand toward the United States that echoes the feelings of the Arab people.

What is required now is to create an Arab situation that will stop U.S. belittling of our current situation by confronting the United States and its schemes, by upholding the Khartoum noes [no peace, no negotiations, and no recognition of Israel as declared by the Arab summit conference held in Khartoum in the early 1960's], and by adhering to the Arab consensus against Camp David and its parties.

AL-THAWRAH on Murphy Trip

JN170939 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Murphy's Disappointment and the Failure of his Tour," *Al-Thawrah* writes: Richard Murphy is returning to Washington carrying the disappointment of yet another failed trip that he hoped would restore the lost credibility of U.S. policy in the Middle East. Murphy came to the area carrying with him shuffled cards from the previous U.S. failure and sought to reshuffle these cards to serve the Reagan administration by implying the United States is able to move diplomatically, by energizing dormant failed initiatives, and by embellishing the tarnished image of the United States in the area.

Al-Thawrah goes on the say: Washington's alignment with the aggressive Israeli side is a strategic one, underpinned by the shared interests of imperialism and Zionism in dominating the area and subjugating it to conditions and terms dictated by the expansionist plans of the United States and Israel at the expense of Arab rights and interests.

Despite the willingness of the Egyptian regime to carry out U.S. policy in the area, this regime lacks the necessary authority in the Arab arena given its isolation because of the Camp David accords. Advocates of a return by the Egyptian regime to the Arab fold are bound to fail, since they lack credibility with Arabs who are opposed to capitulation to the Israeli enemy. Inevitably, the United States is only marking time.

The paper concludes: Murphy's trip has met with the same fate as that of the so-called Reagan initiative, which was marketed in various guises but failed to create a new Camp David to bail Washington out in the area, which will never bow to pressure or to imperialist-Zionist terrorist tactics.

Press Views Egyptian Media Campaign, Murphy Tour

JN181235 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "We are Certain of the Victory of Our Just Struggle," the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: The Egyptian news media's pronouncements against Syria and its militant pan-Arab role do not differ from pronouncements by the Zionist news media and their satellite news media. Because we are interested in responding to those media's dirty campaign, we want to reaffirm some issues which continue to be ignored by media hostile to our nation's causes.

The most important of these issues is that Arab Syria, which insists on toppling the Camp David accords and which insists onthe return of Arab Egypt to the trench of confrontation as it is supposed to be, will continue working with all its means to create an Arab position to confront the Israeli aggression and expansion which is fully supported by the United States. Egypt cannot participate in such an important position while simultaneously shackled with the Camp David accords.

We believe that if attempts to return Egypt to the Arab fold succeed, this will be a practical beginning for making the conflict in the region an inter-Arab one and, consequently, gradually turning the fateful conflict with the Zionist enemy into a border conflict. [sentence as heard] Hence, we are dutybound to reaffirm that it is out of the question for Egypt to return to the Arab fold while it is ridden with Camp David accords. This issue is absolutely uncompromisable.

Concluding, *Al-Ba'th* says: We, in Syria, are absolutely aware of what we are doing. No matter how violent the hostile campaigns against our principled pan-Arab stands become, we will entrench our political line through cooperation with our Arab brothers to make our homeland and masses immune to those suspect calls which appear from time to time. Although we do not belittle the strength and wickedness of the enemies of our nation, we are confident in the victory of our cause and struggle because, first, we are right, and because all peoples of the world who seek freedom and a just peace stand alongside us. [passage omitted]

On Murphy's tour of the region, *Tishrin* says: Mr Murphy's tour was a new opportunity for some Arabs, who still believe that the U.S. Administration can play a role in settling the Middle East crisis, to discover the complete U.S. bias toward Israel and to make sure once again that the U.S. Administration, be it Republican or Democratic, cannot be an impartial and neutral mediator in the Arab-Zionist conflict. On the contrary, it is a major party to the conflict; it supports Israel and adopts its stands. This was clearly apparent in Mr Murphy's statements affirming his administration's rejection of an international conference and calling for direct negotiations with Israel.

Concluding, *Tishrin* says: Perhaps it is an advantage of Murphy's tour that it confirmed to all those who have not yet lost hope in a U.S. role that the U.S. Administration's position is only a true copy of the Israeli position, that the United States and Israel have the same interests in the Middle East, and that being driven by the United States means entering the Israeli whirlpool and vice versa. This makes us call on the Arabs to adopt a unified stand not only toward the Israeli enemy, but also toward the United States.

Report Alleging Peres-Husayn Meeting Denied

TA180945 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Jan 87 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Text] Last night Uri Savir, director of the foreign minister's office, denied *The New York Post* report alleging Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres met with King Husayn during the last week of December 1986 in the 'Arava. Savir said the report was totally unfounded.

Savir's assistant, Dani (Shek), who accompanied Peres on the tour of the 'Arava at that time, said he had been with Peres throughout the tour, which also was open to the press, and he did not see Husayn. "If anyone spread the rumor that a Peres-Husayn meeting took place in the course of that visit, it is utter folly," (Shek) said.

Shamir on Peace Process, Murphy Mission

TA161929 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Yig'al Goren; date and place not given; videorecorded]

[Excerpt] [Goren] Mr Prime Minister, what did you mean when you said in an interview with REUTER that your refusal to return territory in exchange for peace is not your last word?

[Shamir] I did not say that. I said when we meet with Jordanian representatives at the negotiating table I cannot say in advance what positions the Israeli representatives will bring. I would like to add there has been no change in my position or my belief in our right to all of Eretz Yisra'el.

[Goren] In connection with this, I will ask you, sir, what are you prepared to give up in exchange for real peace with Jordan?

[Shamir] Look, many concessions were made in the Camp David accords, but then the circumstances were different. I have said before that at Camp David we reached the limit of concessions the State of Israel can make. I believe in negotiations with Jordan; we can continue along the same path agreed upon at Camp David. This should be the direction taken.

[Goren] Sir, do the renewed visits by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy signify the political process in the Middle East has indeed resumed and there is a chance for negotiations?

[Shamir] I believe the political process never ceased. Murphy's visits proves there is an interest in peace in the region. What Murphy brought with him was, first and foremost, the identification of the objectives shared by Egypt, Israel, and Jordan; namely, the objective of attaining peace, of reaching peace. Decisions still have to be made on the ways to attain this. Agreement still has to be reached. We believe the best way to attain this common goal is through direct, face-to-face negotiations.

[Goren] Sir, has Israel's part in the Iran affair been silenced in the wake of the White House and State Department statements, or do you still fear that we might once again become entangled in this affair upon the opening of the real investigations?

[Shamir] It is not an issue of becoming entangled. Questions might certainly crop up. People certainly might come and ask questions about Israel's positions, on Israel's involvement in one matter or another, but we are prepared for this. We have answers.

[Goren] Why has Israel to date not come out and explained in a forward, orderly, and detailed manner its part in this issue, to put an end to this campaign once and for all?

[Shamir] There is no such thing as once and for all. There will always be questions, there will always be speculation. Once the investigations begin in the United States, we will be prepared to explain our positions in response to any question raised. I say again the truth is on our side. Israel acted in response to the appeal made to it, in accordance with both its interests and those of the United States. We have nothing to hide and nothing of which to be ashamed. [Passage omitted]

Shamir Not Expecting 'Ambush' During U.S. Tour

TA200634 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Nobody is waiting to ambush me in the United States; this is only wishful thinking on the part of malicious persons. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated this yesterday at a meeting with a group of authors at his residence. Shamir reiterated that Israel is not selling weapons to Iran at present. Our correspondent Yaron Deqel reports:

[Begin recording] This was Prime Minister Shamir's first meeting with a group of authors within the framework of meetings the prime minister is planning to hold with representatives of various sectors. Yitzhaq Shamir could not avoid touching on political issues, such as the Iran affair. Shamir said we do not have a policy of exporting weapons to Iran. Our policy is not to sell weapons, but this case was exceptional. Israel does not sell weapons to Iran today, the prime minister said, adding the idea was to sell Iran a quantity of weapons that would not affect the outcome of the Gulf war or the fate of the Khomeyni regime. We weighed the possible damage and reached the conclusion that the war might go on for a day or 2 longer because of the weapons supplied.

Yitzhaq Shamir touched on *Newsweek's* report that he will have to answer several questions during his visit to the United States, saying that nobody is waiting to ambush him there; this is only wishful thinking on the part of malicious persons. I was told a wonderful reception awaits me. Shamir added the facts of the affair are all in our favor, and we have nothing of which to be ashamed.

The prime minister also touched on relations with Jordan, saying King Husayn is not yet Israel's friend, but our relations with Jordan are much better than they were 2 or 3 years ago. These are some of the remarks the prime minister made yesterday in his meeting with a group of authors. [end recording]

Israelis Involved in Iran Told Not To Visit U.S.

TA180532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] The Israelis involved in the affair of the arms supply to Iran were recently told they would do well to refrain from visiting the United States until the two countries finalize the details of bilateral cooperation for investigating the affair. If these people are not careful to observe this advice, they might be given an order requiring them to appear before an investigatory committee.

Our Washington correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned this advice was given, among others, to Ya'aqov Nimrodi, Al Schwimmer, and David Kimche by the most senior personages in Jerusalem.

Israeli representatives have made it clear to the U.S. Administration that bilateral cooperation can take the form of questionnaires or a series of interviews with those involved — in Israel. The issue was also broached in the talks Yosef Beilin, political director general of the Foreign Ministry, held with the chairman of the Senate investigatory committee on the matter, Senator Daniel Inouye. Israel explained that those involved in the matter did not act independently but on behalf of the state.

Businessman Denies Report on Contra Arms Sales

TA190739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
19 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] The owner of an Israeli company that exports security expertise last night denied a REUTER report that his company was involved in secret Israeli arms sales to the contras via Honduras.

"We are a security firm, not arms salesmen," said Leo Gleser, co-owner of International Security and Defence Systems [ISDS], which markets VIP and installation protection to countries and corporations.

In its report yesterday, REUTER quoted unidentified Honduran military sources as saying that two former IDF officers living in Honduras helped arrange secret Israeli arms shipments to the contras.

The sources, who insisted on anonymity, said that Emil Sa'ada, who operates a melon growing farm called Acensa and Shemesh Agrotech, and Yehuda Leitner, an ISDS employee, were middlemen in deals dating back to 1984 which involved the arms shipments.

However, in the news agency report, Leitner denied the allegations and Sa'ada said they were lies. "I believe I am being scapegoated by arms dealers who want to damage my reputation," Leitner said. He also said he worked for Sa'ada, but Sa'ada claimed Leitner was not on Agrotech's payroll. ISDS confirmed that Leitner is their employee.

Israeli sources last night told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Honduran accusations and the REUTER report "may be due to rivalry among several arms dealers and CIA interests in Central America, including Marcus Katz," a Mexican-Israeli with extensive contacts both in the Israeli military industries and in Central American governments.

A well-informed Israeli source said that the CIA has financed several American companies that act as conduits for CIA arms deals to the contras, and that the pressure on the CIA over the Iranscam and contras bank account deal has resulted in attempts by various organizations involved there to seek ways to "lower the heat on them."

Beilin Comments on U.S. Reports on Iran Affair

TA180553 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] The political director general of the Foreign Ministry, Yosi Beilin, says the attempt to make Israel a scapegoat for the U.S. arms sales to Iran has failed. Beilin returned over the weekend from the United States, where he met with Reagan administration officials. Beilin said the administration understands it cannot make Israel appear the one which initiated the arms sale proposal because, in his words, it makes the United States look ridiculous. Beilin said Israel is acting correctly in its response to U.S. media reports on arms sales and urged for Israelis to continue to display patience.

Old City Closed After Stabbing Incident 17Jan

TA171721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Two youths, residents of the Musrara neighborhood, were stabbed this evening near the marketplace in the Old City in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports from the Damascus Gate:

The stabbing occurred around 1700 this afternoon in the market area in the Old City, not far from the Damascus Gate. Three Jerusalem youths — two boys from the Musrara neighborhood, and one girl — were wandering through the Old City when two unknown assailants jumped on them and stabbed the two Israeli boys from behind. In spite of wounds to the neck, both boys managed to runabout 500 meters out through the Damascus Gate. There they encountered Border Policemen, who immediately summoned an ambulance. The condition of the injured boys is still unknown.

Large numbers of police reinforcements arrived on the scene. Under the authority of Commanding Officer Rahamim Komfort, head of the southern district police force, searches were launched and arrests made. So far, some 30 Arab residents have been arrested. All the gates of the Old City have been closed. Commander Komfort told us an initial investigation shows the two assailants were Arabs. According to him, the police are also prepared for retaliatory action by Jewish residents, as has happened in the past.

All the stores in the Damascus Gate area have been closed on police orders.

In an immediate update, one of the wounded, who was evacuated to Shaare Zedek Hospital, has been taken to the operating room. His condition is defined as moderate to serious. The other wounded youth was evacuated to Bikur Holim Hospital.

Arab Youth Attacked

TA182007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] A 16-year-old Arab youth was attacked by four youths on the border of the Musrara neighborhood in Jerusalem a short while ago.This is reported by our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum. He was taken to a first aid center for medical treatment.

Shamir on Incident

TA181020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has called for stepped-up police activity, greater alertness, and special efforts to put an end to violence in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that Mr Shamir concluded the Cabinet debate on the stabbing incident yesterday in which two youths were hurt in the Old City. Police Affairs Minister Bar-Lev reported on the case.

More from the Cabinet session: The Ministerial Committee on Affairs of Confrontation Settlements in the North has been reestablished, chaired by the prime minister. It will also deal with Golan settlements. Mr Shamir announced a debate will soon be held on the status of and equal rights for the Druze and Circassian settlements.

The Cabinet approved the appointment of Yoram Belizowsky as director general of the Industry and Trade Ministry, and of ʻOded Shamir as director of the Investment Authority.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi was appointed a member of the committee entrusted with naming religious judges.

Rabin Urges Tolerance

TA190601 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says it is not advisable to put extremist Jewish religious schools in the Muslim Quarter of Jerusalem. In a call for tolerance from both Arab and Jews, the defense minister said he would also like [as heard] to see an Islamic institution set up in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City. If this and other steps are not taken, Rabin said, tensions could increase.

Speaking last night to the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, Rabin said the only solution to the problem of the Palestinians is to both improve their quality of life while at the same time fight. [as heard] At the speech was reporter Dick Winter:

[Begin recording] [Winter] It was a speech which turned into a dissertation on the subject of terrorism. Defense Minister Rabin said terrorism is the main obstacle to peace, but it no longer threatens the existence of the State of Israel.

[Rabin] Not one of the terror organizations was, is, or will be a threat to the very existence of Israel. Whoever considers one of the terror organizations as a threat to the very existence of Israel to me is an insult.

[Winter] The only solution to the Palestinian problem, says Rabin, is on the one hand to fight terrorism and on the other to improve the quality of life of Palestinians in the territories. This policy should be the groundwork that will bring about peace negotiations between Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinians. But we cannot promise that no Israelis will ever be knifed, Rabin says; we can only reduce the number of incidents. But the key, said the defense minister, is tolerance.

[Rabin] I don't believe it was advisable to put in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City in Jerusalem extreme yeshivot [religious schools]. I wouldn't like to see an Islamic institution in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City. Are we going to live together in coexistence or are we going to impose on one another, they on us by terror, we on them by something that we can afford not to do because we are the ruling party.

[Winter] Rabin says Israel should use every lawful means at its disposal in the struggle against terrorism, but that it is equally important to understand the Palestinian people. [end recording]

Two Groups Claim Stabbing

NC190842 Paris AFP in English 0827 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Tunis, Jan 19 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and its extremist splinter Fatah-Revolutionary Council group of Abu Nidal both claimed responsibility late Sunday for the stabbing Saturday of two Jewish youths in Israel-occupied East Jerusalem. The PLO news agency WAFA said here that the two were "agents of Israeli intelligence" who had tried to interfere with "a Palestinian combat unit carrying out a mission". A communique published in Damascus by the Abu Nidal group said that "after observing the movements of two Zionists in the Al-Misrarah quarter of the eastern sector of the occupied city of Jerusalem, the unit of the martyr Muhammad ʻAbd al-Karim stabbed the two before returning to base unharmed." The communique added, "we will retaliate even more strongly until the day the Zionists leave our land for ever."

Soviet Delegation Says Conference Road to Ties

TA181208 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Jan 87 p 2

[Report by Yehoshuʻa Bitzur]

[Text] The Soviet Peace Committee delegation currently in Israel has told Knesset Members [MK's] Ora Namir and David Libaʻi of the Alignment that if Israel accepts an international conference, in accordance with the UN proposal, there will be no impediment to resuming full ties between the two countries, including diplomatic relations.

The Soviet delegation met with the Israeli team trying to improve relations with the Soviet Union. MK's Namir and Liba'i are on that team. They demanded that the Soviet Union renew diplomatic ties with Israel, although they emphasized their belief that any Middle East peace settlement must include the Soviet Union.

The Soviet representatives, and particularly the head of the Peace Committee's Middle East Department, Boris Makarenko, emphasized that before diplomatic relations are renewed, it is necessary to improve cultural and scientific ties between the two countries.

The Soviet Peace Committee delegation, including Dr Nikolay Bochkov, head of the Soviet Genetics Institute, reached an agreement with Weizmann Institute heads on the exchange of information and expertise in genetic research, especially cellular research and cell behavior.

The Soviet Peace Committee delegation met at the Weizmann Institute with its president, Prof Arye Dvoretzky, and genetics specialists Professors Sachs and Feldman.

Leftwing MK's Meeting

TA192027 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Report by Elimelekh Ram]

[Excerpt] The three members of the Soviet Peace Committee today visited the Knesset to meet with Knesset members who have visited the Soviet Union. The Knesset Members [MK] delayed their entrance to the room located next to the cafeteria because they were ambushed on the way by activists working on behalf of Soviet Jews. The hallway was subsequently cleared. The Soviet guests were Nikolay Bochkov, the vice president of the Soviet organization of doctors opposed to nuclear weapons; Boris Makarenko, a senior activist on the Soviet Peace Committee; and Konstantin Geyvandov, a political commentator for *Izvestiya*.

The talk with the left-wing MK's was difficult; someone described it as the dialogue of the deaf and dumb. The Israelis argued that the Soviets should change their policy toward Soviet Jews and resume diplomatic relations with Israel. Your unbalanced policy toward the Middle East pushes peace farther away and will prevent your participation in an international conference, the Israelis told the Soviets.

The Soviets, in response, made the resumption of relations conditional on Israel's consent to incorporating the Soviet Union in an international conference. As for the issue of Soviet Jewry, this is a domestic Soviet issue, they said, adding that the new regulations [of emigration] were intended to facilitate and simplify the procedures of emigration from and return to the USSR. [passage omitted]

Iraq First Arab Country To Receive Mig-29's

TA181002 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
18 Jan 87 p 1

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] Iraq is the first Arab country to receive the most advanced Soviet-made fighter bomber, the Mig-29, recently. Experts believe the aircraft can compete with the advanced U.S. F-15's and F-16's, used by the Israeli Air Force.

There have been many reports in the past that Syria would be the first Arab country to receive these aircraft, as it sent a combat pilot to the Soviet Union for training on the Mig-29. It now appears the Iraqis got seniority.

Military Denies Shelling Targets in Lebanon

TA191111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign news agencies report that three Israeli vessels shelled terrorist targets near Maghdushah near Sidon this morning. The REUTER news agency quotes Lebanese police as saying at least four people were killed or wounded.

Israeli military sources completely deny the reports.

4 'Terrorists' Killed in 18 Jan Clash With IDF

TA191211 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1148 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] As reported earlier, four terrorists were killed last night in a clash with an IDF unit on the border of the security zone, in the area of Bra'shit in southern Lebanon. Our soldiers did not sustain any casualties. We now have additional details on this clash.

An IDF unit last night noticed a terrorist gang trying to infiltrate into the security zone west of Bra'shit. The soldiers opened fire at the terrorists, and during searches, the bodies of four terrorists were found. Weapons were found near the bodies, including Kalashnikov rifles, mines, and roadside charges. As reported, our forces did not sustain any casualties.

Further Killings 19 Jan

TA200937 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0925 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Three terrorists were killed last night in a clash with an IDF force in the central sector of the security zone in southern Lebanon. Our forces did not sustain any injuries. The incident occurred near 0100 last night, when an IDF force discovered a terrorist squad in the security zone south of Markaba. The force opened fire in the direction of the squad. In searches conducted afterward, the bodies of three terrorists were discovered, as well as kalashnikov rifles, pistols, RPG launchers, and explosives. To repeat, our force did not sustain any casualties. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, notes there have been many clashes in that region between terrorists and the IDF as well as Southern Lebanese Army soldiers. Let us recall that four terrorists were killed in the security zone 2 days ago.

Compensation Offered Family of Irish Soldier

TA181626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Israel has offered to pay a high compensation to the members of the family of an Irish UNIFIL soldier who was inadvertantly killed by IDF forces last week. This was learned by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. Ireland has not yet responded to the offer.

Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi said at noon today the firing was a disgraceful error. The conclusions of the senior officer who looked into the affair were submitted to the chief of staff today. The Northern Command's attorney is now engaged in examining the legal aspects of the conclusions. Knowledgeable sources told our military correspondent it is expected the commander of the unit concerned will be removed from his position.

Offer Received Coolly

TA190749 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jan 87 p 1

[Report by Benny Morris]

[Text] Israel's offer of compensation to the family of the Irish UNIFIL soldier accidentally killed by IDF gunners in south Lebanon earlier this week was not "received with enthusiasm" by the Irish Government, sources said yesterday. The sources said that the offer was conveyed to the Irish during Ambassador Yehuda Avner's visit to Dublin last week but the Irish, angry over the killing, were neither mollified nor happy. The sources suggested that the family might even turn down the compensation, which was described by officials as "reasonable but not extravagant." The sum offered is understood to be substantially smaller than that paid to the families of the victims of the "USS Liberty," which was strafed by Israeli jets during the Six Day War.

LIBYA

Iran's Velayati Meets Mansur; Rules Out Summit

NC180655 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who has arrived in Libya at the head of a delegation after visiting the SFRY, met Kamil Hasan Mansur, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, last evening and reviewed mutual problems and developments in the region and the Islamic world. In this meeting, developments in the imposed war, problems in Lebanon, the situation in Chad, and imperialist forces' interference in that country were discussed. Referring to bilateral relations [as heard] Mr Velayati said: As we noted earlier, the Iranian Muslim nation's duty now is to define the destiny of this war; and our able combatants current victories will continue until Saddam is toppled. As for the ICO conference, our foreign minister stressed that due to the unsuitability of Kuwait and the lack of security there, convening such an important conference in that country is utterly unprincipled, and thus the Islamic Republic of Iran will not participate on any level.

The Libyan secretary for the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison then thanked Mr Velayati and the Islamic Republic of Iran for his visit and endorsed the stance outlined by Velayati regarding regional issues and the imposed war, stressing: In view of the expanding ties between officials of our countries, it is essential that these exchanges occur periodically. He added: Following the U.S. imperialist plots and its military attack on Libyan territory from the north last year, another conspiracy is being hatched south of the country. The imperialist forces, through their presence in our neighbor, Chad, are threatening our national security.

Mr Velayati concurred: In our opinion, African problems should be resolved by the Africans themselves, and we condemn all interference in the African Continent.

JANA: Iran-Iraq War Benefits U.S., Israel

LD192130 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 19 January — *Al-Zahf al-Akhdar* [The Green March], the paper published by the revolutionary committees, has stressed that the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism are alone reaping the fruits of the war that has been raging for years between Iran and Iraq.

In an article published today, the paper said that it is in the interest of the enemy and U.S. imperialism to prolong this war and to prevent either side from being decisive. The paper said that this war has saved the enemy the trouble of slaughtering the Iranians and the Iraqis.

The paper added that reason should prevail and understanding should be the master of the situation after years have passed in this war which, if it continues, will enter the stage of total annihilation of the Iranians and the Iraqis.

The paper said that as a consequence of the continuing war, the bridges of returning back to know who started the war have been completely destroyed.

The paper concluded its article saying that if this war continues, the cities in Iran and Iraq will be nothing but a huge center for the handicapped. They will be the negative outcome of a war which has no aim and which has mistaken its real front.

Libyan-Soviet Scientific Cooperation Talks Begin

LD201158 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jan (JANA) — Arab Libyan-Soviet scientific talks began last night within the framework of the long-term cooperation agreement signed between the two countries. The talks were attended by the secretaries of scientific research centers in the Great Jamahiriyah, and on the Soviet side by the delegation of the Soviet Academy of Sciences currently visiting the Great Jamahiriyah. The delegation is led by A.S. Khokhlov, chief scientific secretary at the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union in various scientific areas were discussed during the meeting, as was as an exchange of experts in the scientific institutions of the two countries. During the talks, the Libyan side stressed the great importance attached by the Great al-Fatih revolution to science and scientists, and to the encouragement and support of scientific research in various fields.

The USSR Academy of Sciences delegation praised the gigantic efforts made by the Great Jamahiriyah in scientific research and the setting up of specialized research centers. It expressed great admiration and appreciation for the importance attached to science and to scientists in the Great Jamahiriyah.

An intensive program has been laid out for the Soviet delegation to visit scientific research centers in the Great Jamahiriyah and to hold scientific meetings.

JANA: French Ferry U.S. Hardware in Chad

LD201101 Tripoli JANA in English 0843 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] London, Ay Alnar Month 20, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — *The Times* British newspaper's correspondent in Ndjamena asserted that French military aircraft still carry out continued operations of ferrying U.S. military hardware in the framework of concentrating its direct military intervention in Chad.

The Times correspondent said that those French aircraft are being equipped with rockets before taking off towards the north. He added that a number of Zairean pilots are working with the forces of agent "Ibri" [Habre].

Arab Congress Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Chad

LD192146 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has strongly condemned the direct French and U.S. interference in Chad and the war of annihilation launched by the imperialist reactionary alliance against the Chadian towns and villages liberated by the new GUNT.

In a cable to the brother leader of the revolution at the end of the meetings at its third session in Algiers, the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress stressed that the reactionary colonialist interference in Chad is a blatant threat to the people of that African country and to the security and safety of the Great Jamahiriyah. It makes a part of the African territories a playground for the colonialist forces.

In its cable, the secretariat said that solving the problem of Chad is an African mission, because Africa is able to solve its problems on its own, and that Africa will not ally with anyone but itself.

MOROCCO

APS Version of Weinberger Visit Denied

LD161525 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Rabat, 16 Jan (MAP) — More than one action undertaken by Morocco has been the object of comments and assessments by foreign observers. Morocco, which does not live within hermetic borders, and which has not made impenetrableness into a means of government, is proud of this and feels flattered. Used to discretion, we almost always feel some sense of propriety over showing it off. And habitually and exceptionally we only break our silence when the avowed and obvious designs of the commentator are malevolent, and particularly when they fall in the realm of imagination, not to say aberration.

At the beginning of last December Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. defense secretary, stayed in Morocco on a short visit. He led the U.S. delegation taking part in the joint Moroccan-American military cooperation commission. His visit was an official one, as everything here is open, and nothing of Mr Weinberger's visit, either in part or in whole, was hidden.

The chiefs of APS — the official Algerian news agency — past masters in the art of amalgamation and disinformation, which they are forced to use to cover up the failures of their masters, whose voice they are — tried to give a version of this visit which makes us smile rather than irritates us, as it is far from simple reality.

A sovereign and independent country, as Algeria is, Morocco is the master of its fate and free to conclude any agreement in conformity with its higher interests.

However, a basic principle remains the backbone of any policy it conducts. As a member of the triple Arab-African-Muslim community, it has never undertaken, and will never ever undertake, anything to attack the interests of this triple community.

Of course, it has a national army which it attempts to equip as best it can. The industrialized countries — including the United States — are its main suppliers.

Algeria, as far as we know, is subject to the same constraints. But there is this difference: Being one of the USSR's priviliged allies, it manages to obtain the most sophisticated weapons, often reserved exclusively for the members of the Warsaw Pact. Morocco has never reproached it for this. But it is a basic element that Algerian propaganda tries to hide, without ever succeeding.

Algeria and Morocco are neighboring countries, and the Moroccan and Algerian peoples are brother peoples called upon to coexist, one day, when the time of unreason is past, to bring their fates together.

Nurtured by this basic geographical and historical fact, the Moroccan leaders have never allowed a weapon of their national army to be pointed against an Algerian brother.

Could the same thing be said of Algeria, whose modern weapons — like the SAM-6, -7 and -9 — are mainly used, through mercenaries, to kill Moroccan patriots?

This is the question that we ask our Algerian brothers, and that we offer for the reflection of their leaders.

SUDAN

Official Denies Libyan, Egyptian Troops in Sudan

JN181714 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 17 Jan 87 pp 1, 16

[By Yusuf Shanbali]

[Text] Khartoum — Sudanese Chief of Staff General 'Abd al-'Azim Siddiq has stated that reports on the presence of Egyptian forces in the Sudanese Hala'ib area and on the presence of Libyan troops in the Darfur Region are groundless and unfounded.

The Sudanese Communist Party paper *Al-Maydan* last week reported that Egyptian forces entered the Hala'ib area and set up tents there. Other world media organs mentioned a few days ago that Libyan forces are present in Sudan and will be used in the war against Chad. Many Sudanese papers have also reported that Libyan forces have been in the Darfur Region since the time of the transitional government under 'Abd al-Rahamn Siwar al-Dhahab.

Gen Siddiq also said that the John Garang movement is not serious about its invitation for a political dialogue and that it is only trying to gain time. He added that although he is not convinced of the feasibility of a military solution, the Sudanese Armed Forces are capable of imposing this solution, stressing that that the Armed Forces, being a national institution, reject any political containment and insist on being independent of any party.

Al-Mahdi Holds News Conference on Chad, ICO

EA182209 Khartoum SUNA in English
1645 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Jan — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi affirmed that Iran's absence from the anticipated Islamic Summit Conference in Kuwait will minimize its efficiency in tackling all issues submitted before it.

In a press conference held here today, Al-Mahdi pointed that Iran is an essential part in one of the most important issues (the Gulf war) due to be discussed in the conference. Al-Mahdi said Sudan has decided to be neutral in the Iran-Iraq war and to exert efforts for peacefully ending it, referring in this regard to Sudan's peace initiative for halting this war.

On the Chadian problem, Al-Mahdi explained that Sudan's attitude towards this problem is to keep Chad independent, united, stable and empty of any foreign troops. He revealed that a Sudanese peace plan has been worked out for solving the Chadian problem in collaboration with other African countries (possibly Algeria and Nigeria). The plan is mainly to move within the context for halting the fighting and realizing good-neighbouring [relations] among the conflicting parties, he said, adding that Sudan would move virtually in this direction after all conflicting factions have expressed desire and confidence over Sudan's taking this role.

He stressed that Sudan will never alter its stance towards the conflict in Chad and will never respond to any pressure by any one of the warring factions for involving [itself] in this war by any means.

The consequences of the ongoing fighting in Chad for Sudan could be represented in the widespread armed looting along the borders, the influx of refugees into Sudan and the instability in the region which may lead to foreign intervention, he said.

As for the convening of the long-awaited national constitutional conference, the premier said that his government and all the concerned sides were now actively working [towards] achieving this goal and that most of the concerned parties have raised their views on the issue.

On the shape of administration in south Sudan, Al-Mahdi said the present military ruling in that part of the country which was necessitated by certain circumstances during the former transitional government was retained by the now civilian government, although it is far from the spirit of the Self-Government Act of 1973, with a view to be amended to cope with Addis Ababa 1973 Accord.

Al-Mahdi, who pointed to the formation of a committee to probe and reconcile the southern political force's views on the kind of administration in the south, stressed his government's keenness to help establish a civil administration for the south and denied anew any move or intention to impose a certain system of ruling in the south.

On the controversial constitutional amendments, Al-Mahdi said they would soon be submitted before the Constituent Assembly and expected to be passed by the majority. He explained that the amendments imply the introduction of the legislative authorization which was neglected by the transitional constitution in spite of its importance in the democratic states where the government has the chance to issue temporary legislations during the absence of the parliament.

He bitterly attacked the implementation of the so-called Islamic Shari'a laws introduced by ousted Numayri and branded them as "barbaric" and tarnished the image of Islam and Islamic Shari'a.

On the other hand, Al-Mahdi lashed out at the weak role being played by the public sector in developing the country's economy, promising to purge the civil service from the defunct regime's clique, who he said are responsible for the deterioration in the public sector.

He praised at the same time the performance of the private sector in pushing forward the national economy, pointing out that cooperation between the government and the private sector will be for the interest of the two parties.

Discusses Egyptian Ties, IMF

JN191043 Khartoum SUNA in English
0935 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Khartoum, Jan. 19 (SUNA) — Relations between Sudan and Egypt were currently being reviewed according to new principles based on a popular level instead of the official level and on a form of a brotherly charter formula which the Sudan is now adopting for its relations with its neighbours, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said in a press conference held here yesterday.

As for his long awaited visit to Egypt, the premier said it came within the context of his move as a part of the state system.

Referring to ousted President Numayri's existence in Egypt, al-Mahdi said it makes some disturbance in relations between the two countries owing to Numayri's major subversive role in the Sudan.

Al-Mahdi reiterated the Sudan's demand for Numayri's trial but, however, he said the Sudan did not put this demand as a prerequisite for the continuation of its relations with Egypt.

Comenting on some news reports that spoke about an anticipated partial ministerial reshuffle, Al-Mahdi denied any idea to carry out such a move saying that no (amendments would be proceeded to unless there were subjective reasons). [as received]

As concerns the International Monetary Fund, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi explained that the government has made known to the IMF its economic program which proposed a rational solution to economic problems. [passage omitted]

USSR To Extend Aid for Projects, Bolster Trade

JN191530 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Jan (SUNA) — The USSR Government has decided to extend aid to the Sudanese Government to support the projects set up by the USSR Government in Sudan and to bolster trade between the two countries.

This was revealed when Al-Sharif Zyn al-'Abidin al- Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received his excellency the USSR ambassador in Khartoum today, Monday. The ambassador told reporters that during the meeting they reviewed recent cooperation between the two countries as well as bilateral relations. He pointed out that cooperation between the two countries is currently proceeding in a satisfactory manner.

The ambssador added that they discussed world issues, such as spreading stability and security, and removing nuclear arms. They also discussed regional issues. He said the two countries had identical viewpoints on all these issues. The ambassador said that he handed to the minister a copy of Gorbachev's address to the United Nations which dealt with the efforts by the USSR for peace last year. The USSR ambassador said he also handed to the minister a copy of the USSR foreign minister's statement on the Middle East issue, which called for an international conference on the Middle East and for the formation of a preparatory committee. On the situation in Chad, the USSR ambassador said the Sudanese and USSR viewpoints were identical as the USSR is of the opinion that a solution to this problem should be acheived by Chadians.

Libyan Education Delegation Arrives 15 Jan

JN161053 Khartoum SUNA in English 0940 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Jan (SUNA) — A high-level Libyan educational delegation led by Education and Scientific Research General Technical Committee Secretary Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim, arrived here yesterday on a several-day visit to the country.

Ibrahim told SUNA that the visit comes in response to the visit to Libya by Minister of Education Bakri Ahmad Adil.

It also aims at resuming what have been realized in connection with the implementation of agreements in the sphere of education, the Libyan official said.

Opposition Leader on Southern Issue, Ethiopia

JN161305 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 14 Jan 87 p 14

[Interview with Dr 'Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Salih, Sudanese Islamic National Front Political Bureau member and opposition leader in the Constituent Assembly, by correspondent Al-Fatih al-Jazuli in Khartoum — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Jazuli] We notice many negative and positive developments in the current political state of affairs in Sudan. In your capacity as opposition leader in the Sudanese Constitutent Assembly, what is your opinion of all this?

[Salih] One sees that the current political state of affairs in Sudan is in some kind of a stalemate and the government is suffering from a weakness in the coalition in spite of the public statements trying to depict the opposite. Without further elaborating on the disputes taking place behind closed doors, it has become clearly evident in recent months that the government has failed to make clear decisions which would have settled many of the issues it promised to settle when it assumed power. [passage omitted]

[Al-Jazuli] Many ideas are being put forth by party and nonparty sources for a solution to the southern problem. Some say the issue of southern Sudan is directly linked to the Eritrean issue. Others say it is necessary to bargain with the Ethiopian regime on these two issues. What do you have to say to this?

[Salih] To say there is a link between the Eritrean issue and the issue of southern Sudan is an Ethiopian point of view. It is not true from our point of view. Our viewpoint is that the elements of the Eritrean issue are completely different from the elements of the southern Sudan issue. It would be dangerous if Sudanese political forces adopt this viewpoint. The Eritrean issue is that of a state that had a special status and on which there were UN resolutions. Ethiopia tried to ignore these resolutions and to impose unity by force and through a fait accompli and also to exterminate its opponents in Eritrea.

As for southern Sudan, the picture there is completely different. Southern Sudan is part of independent Sudan which has been recognized by all political parties. Sudan's current borders are recognized by the United Nations and other international organizations. No matter what the justifications of the conflict are, it is a conflict within one country. This is the essence of the difference between the two issues. As for the interconnection between the two issues, it stems from Ethiopia's concept of national security. Ethiopia insists on interfering in the issue of southern Sudan by helping the rebels so it may use this as a way to pressure Sudan into handing over the Eritrean refugees to it. This conflicts with international conventions and with Islamic principles and ethics.

However, we believe Sudan can play a positive role in approximating viewpoints between the Ethiopians and Eritreans. Sudan can also abide by a policy of good neighborliness with Ethiopia by implementing measures to make the Ethiopian borders secure on condition that Ethiopia does likewise.

[Al-Jazuli] What about the Islamic National Front's contacts with John Garang's movement?

[Salih] So far, contacts have taken place to become acquainted with the other side's viewpoint through direct dialogue and not through third parties. This move is dictated by the need to become directly acquainted with the viewpoint of others, particularly if the party in question is a political movement that seeks to have a positive and effective role in settling the southern Sudan problem.

The results of our direct contacts with John Garang's movement in London and Addis Ababa have undoubtedly helped us explain some points and clarify our stands on settling the southern Sudan problem. Our success in establishing the roots for a dialogue with all the southern Sudanese parties enables us to submit a comprehensive concept on how to settle this issue. [passage omitted]

[Al-Jazuli] The prime minister says the laws that will replace the September 1983 laws have been completed. What information do you have in this respect?

[Salih] The information I have says the government has not prepared the laws to replace the September 1983 laws. Perhaps the prime minister was referring to the draft bill that the lawyers association has submitted. This is only one viewpoint and cannot be considered as a substitute law. [passage omitted]

SPLA: 29 Soldiers Killed in Separate Operations

EA192301 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Thirteen enemy soldiers have been killed and many others wounded in a land mine blast at (Bangdit) village in northern Upper Nile. The land mine, which exploded under a Magirus truck in which the enemy soldiers were traveling, was planted by SPLA forces of Mazlum Battalion under overall command of Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Deng Alor.

In another development, units of Mazlum Battalion clashed with Khartoum's militia of Murahilin at (Shemedi) village. Correspondents in the area say that 16 enemy militiamen have been killed and many others were seriously injured.

Others Killed in Malakal

EA161623 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpt] SPLA forces have launched yet another daring raid against enemy targets inside Malakal Town. Latest reports from there say that the forces from Sobat Battalion under the direct combat command of First-Lieutenant (Daniel Chuang Machar) carried out on 8th January 1987 and a savage raid on both the (Kondabo) army garrison and the Malakia police station deep inside Malakal Town, killing well over 76 enemy soldiers and razing 46 houses to the ground. Our correspondent said that the enemy also sustained extensive damage in material as a result of the raid. [passage omitted]

Enemy Convoy Attacked

EA161627 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Excerpt] SPLA forces of Shark Battalion operating under the direct command of (Major Serbino Avervic) [words indistinct] 12 miles away from Tonj at 6 o'clock on the morning of 9th January 1987. Our correspondent says that SPLA forces killed 23 enemy soldiers and wounded 26 others in the ensuing clash. Remnants of the enemy force fled to Tonj in complete disarray, leaving behind their dead and four destroyed Magirus vehicles. Our correspondent says that the enemy convoy had set out from Rumbek destined for Tonj at 9 pm the previous day, 8th January 1987, (?trying) to exploit the cover of darkness to avoid a possible ambush by SPLA forces around Rumbek. [passage omitted]

TUNISIA

Defense Minister Meets U.S. Sixth Fleet Head

LD171903 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Defense Minister Slaheddine Baly conferred with Vice Admiral Kendall Moranville, commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, this morning. The meeting discussed the long-standing friendly relations between Tunisia and the United States and bilateral cooperation in the military sphere, in particular between the Navy and the U.S. Navy.

After the meeting, which was attended by a number of senior officers of the Navy and by Peter Sebastian, U.S. ambassador to Tunisia, Vice Admiral Moranville visited the 9 April Museum of the Patriotic Movement, in particular cell No 37, in which the supreme combatant was detained after the events of 9 April 1938.

ETHIOPIA

Mugabe Stops Over on Way to PRC; Meets Mengistu

EA182321 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 18 Jan

[Text] Comrade Robert Mugabe, president of the Republic of Zimbabwe and current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, who is on his way to the PRC, stopped over in Addis Ababa where he met and exchanged views with Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam. Comrade Robert Mugabe was welcomed this morning at Bole International Airport by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

During the Meeting, held in the airport's VIP lounge, the two discussed bilateral relations, South Africa, Africa's economy, the Nonaligned Movement, and current international issues.

Comrade Robert Mugabe will also visit the DPRK and India. Present at the welcoming and departure ceremonies were Comrade Fiseha Desta, Political Bureau member and secretary of the WPE Central Committee; Political Bureau and alternate members of the WPE Central Committee; WPE Central Committee members; and the ambassadors of the PRC and India residing in Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Mengistu Urges Hard Work in Holeta Speech

EA172218 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 17 Jan

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has said if we struggle genuinely, shoulder our responsibilities collectively, and train thousands of capable citizens as a result of our exemplary work, no force can stop us from achieving the goals we have set ourselves.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, said this today in Holeta when commissioning the 51st group of cadets trained at the long-established Genet Military Training Center. The cadets graduated with the rank of first lieutenant and were handed various prizes.

In his speech Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam noted appointment to a certain post is not intended to be a source of material enrichment. Rather, it is an opportunity to do exemplary practical work, to serve the people, to work and make others work, to properly utilize available assets and wealth, to perform genuinely and efficiently for the well-being of the people and to promote social progress. He noted our revolution is waging a firm struggle today to form a new society in all spheres. This requires farsightedness, sincerity, and principled conduct from those appointed to leadership posts at different levels.

Comrade Mengistu further noted that because of objective conditions in our country it is not possible to [words indistinct] without waging a firm struggle. No one can achieve concrete results without a struggle. There is no better contribution toward our cause. Our unshakable stand is social progress and peace. This is the common language of all democratic forces and a guarantee for the working people of our country that their wishes can be realized through common efforts.

Our comrade revolutionary leader said the imperialists will not stop trying to destabilize peoples who strive to be self-sustaining by liberating themselves from dependence and organizing, arming, and deploying their people and providing them with propaganda and other forms of support. To withstand this, it is necessary to be a maker of history, to join hands in the struggle, and to be victorious. This is the duty of the people and will be recorded in history.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed that in the process of our struggle, our enemies have fully realized we can in no way advance our stage of development under [words indistinct] and leave no stone unturned to create obstacles. It is, therefore, necessary to give due attention to the proper safeguarding of our motherland, our revolution, and our people. This should not be neglected in any way, as it is a matter of supreme importance.

Eritreans Say 4 Killed in 13 Jan Landmine Blast

EA192040 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Barentu-Teseney Road — Committee secretary of the 23d Division of the enemy's army, Bereke Teame, and three officers were killed when the vehicle in which they were traveling was blown up by a landmine. The vehicle was destroyed on 15 January by a landmine planted on the Barentu-Bele-Adi Keshi Road by engineering units of the EPLF. The blast also claimed the lives of three soldiers.

5 Killed in Separate Attack

EA192113 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Akele Guzaye — Our heroic forces have attacked enemy troops that were deployed between Zala Ambesa and the district of (Lego Farda) with the aim of threatening people and stealing their property. In the operation carried out 15 January, five soldiers were killed, seven others were wounded, and one Kalashnikov was seized. The enemy troops fled in disarray to Zala Ambesa.

KENYA

CPC Delegation Arrives on Official Visit

EA161725 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 16 Jan 87 p1

[Report by Francis Muroki: "Chinese Delegation Arrives"]

[Excerpt] A six-man delegation of the Communist Party of China arrived in Nairobi last night for an official visit to Kenya. The delegation is on a return visit following a similar one by high-ranking Party officials of the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) to China last year.

The Chinese delegation is led by Mr Zhu Liang, who is the head of the International Liaison Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

The others in the entourage are Mrs Zhou Shiqin, the deputy secretary-general of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee; Mr Chen Daosheng, the bureau director at the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee; Mr Zhou Guangtai, the division chief of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee; and Mr Zhao Genrong and Mrs Hong Cuiying, both of whom are party members. [passage omitted]

Holds Talks With Moi

EA172015 Nairobi KNA in English 1430 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Nairobi, 17 Jan — HE, President Daniel arap Moi, said today that international peace could not be achieved unless there was justice. He noted that there also had to be love for one another in order to create understanding and confidence among the people. President Moi was speaking at State House, Nakuru, when holding talks with the visiting delegation of the Communist Party of China.

The president pointed out that it was in pursuit of justice that Kenya had always supported China in seeking its rightful place in the UN. President Moi condemned South Africa for its apartheid policies, adding its attitude could not be condoned by those who loved humanity.

Emphasizing that Kenya was a sovereign state and made its decisions without reference to anyone, President Moi said Afghanistan should be left alone to chart its own destiny. He pointed out that Kenya, being nonaligned, chose its friends and was committed to international understanding.

The president hailed the relations between the two countries and singled out the Kasarani sports complex built with the assistance of China as a good symbol of friendship. [passage omitted]

The leader of the delegation, Mr Zhu Liang, commended President Moi for his leadership which, he said, had brought about rapid development in all spheres of human endeavour. He said that after touring several projects, including the Kenya industrial estates, and the Jua Kali enterprises, they witnessed President Moi's concern for an individual well-being and the success of even small-scale businessmen.

On relations between the two countries, Mr Zhu noted that President Moi's visit to China in 1980 and the subsequent visit to Kenya by the Chinese premier, Zhao Ziyang, had strengthening the friendship between the two countries and peoples. He said, like Kenya, China was strongly opposed to the South African oppressive apartheid system, supported the creation of the New International Economic Order and south cooperation.

Mr Zhu said China was now opening its doors to the outside world to allow the inflow of the vast foreign technologies and skills. He added that that was why China wanted to learn and benefit from Kenya's experiences. The delegation leader thanked President Moi for the warm and friendly reception they had received. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry on U.S. Politician's Article

EA191900 Nairobi KNA in English 1807 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Nairobi, 19 Jan: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya wishes to issue a statement in connection with an article which appeared in the *Daily Nation* of Monday, 19th January 1987 under the title, American Politician Protests.

We are most surprised that a man of Congressman Wolpe's stature and experience should have made such a scandalous and unfounded statement against Kenya with which his own country, the USA, enjoys such cordial and productive relations. The importance of these relations were further emphasized during the recent visit of the U.S. secretary of state, Mr George P. Shultz. Kenya highly appreciated the fact that the secretary of state had included Kenya in his first official visit to the Continent of Africa and for the subsequent valuable talks held between him and H.E. President Daniel arap Moi.

It was in the context of these warm relations that in spite of the very short notice which the government was given for Congressman Wolpe's official visit, the minister for foreign affairs hurried back on Saturday, the 17th [of] January from the African-American Institute Conference in Botswana, which the congressman also attended, in order to welcome and brief him fully on matters of mutual interest to both countries. Congressman Wolpe was officially received at the airport by a minister of the Kenya Government with all the necessary protocol befitting a distinguished legislator from a friendly country. The minister for foreign affairs then held official talks with Mr Wolpe and his delegation on Sunday morning, 18th January, followed by a luncheon in his honour. The talks were extremely useful and mutually satisfactory.

Prior to the arrival of Mr Wolpe, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had received what appeared to be an astonishing request hardly a week earlier, which also coincided with a week-end, that appointments be arranged for him to hold talks with h.e. the president, the minister of agriculture, the minister for finance, the minister for economic planning and national development and the minister of foreign affairs and, now we are informed, with a host of other appointments numbering not less than 15 within the short space of one day in order for him to depart promptly on Sunday, 18th January, which he of course did. We found this to be impracticable and, instead, it was considered adequate that he should have an extensive meeting with the minister for foreign affairs, in addition to the other meetings separately arranged for him with the Law Society of Kenya officials, National Christian Council of Kenya (NCCK), UNICEF and others.

As far as the government is aware, there is no individual or organization which was prevented by any authority from meeting Mr Wolpe, as he alleges. In any case, considering the fact that Kenya is renowned world-wide for her respect and adherence to fundamental human rights as guaranteed in the Kenya Constitution, it is shocking for Mr Wolpe to state that this government would do such a thing.

During the discussion between the minister for foreign affairs and Congressman Wolpe, he was told that Kenya appreciated the close relationship and the economic cooperation between Kenya and the United States. As an independent and free country, Kenya is only interested in cooperation free from any form of coercion. Kenya, as a free country, will however, not entertain foreign political missionaries.

However, if the congressman wishes to pay another visit to Kenya in order to see or talk to anybody he so wishes, he is welcome.

UGANDA

Former Ministers Held on Assassination Plots

EA181849 Dar es Salaam External Service
in English 1600 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Kampala — The Ugandan authorities have arrested eight people following a charge by President Yoweri Museveni that exiled former government ministers were plotting to assassinate current leaders. Those arrested include the former mayor of Jinja, Mr William Mwangu, and the secretary general of the Uganda People's Congress, UPC, in the Jinja area.

The UPC was in power in Uganda until July 1985. President Museveni, who has been touring and addressing meetings in eastern Uganda, told a gathering last week that several former Obote ministers were plotting assassinations and other crimes against the present leadership.

CHAD

Radio Reports Libyan Bombing of Fada, Wour, Zouar

AB161412 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Having totally lost the fighting on the ground, Libya is now resorting to bombings. Thus the Libyan Air Force has since this morning been shelling Fada, Wour, and Zouar simultaneously. At Fada, a small girl was killed and two women were seriously wounded during the Libyan air raids.

Furthermore, the Chadian region of Aozou, now under occupation has, for some time now, become a real concentration camp for the Chadian people. This is reminiscent of Auschwitz in Germany during the Second World War, launched by Hitler, the Nazi. Our compatriots are tracked down like beasts and mercilessly tortured by their Libyan executioners who want to compel the Chadians to stage demonstrations in support of Libya. This sad maneuver is designed to deceive the world community about the acts of genocide perpetrated by Al-Qadhdhafi on Chadians.

Ndjamena Reports Habre 17 Jan Press Conference

AB171653 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 17 Jan 87

[President Hissein Habre's press conference in Ndjamena on 17 January 1987 with 40 local and foreign reporters — recorded]

[Text] [Habre] Ladies and gentlemen: Men, women, and children are constantly dying. Towns and villages are empty. Our livestock are exterminated. Alas, this means that war continues in Chad. It is an unbearable situation because Chad seriously wants peace. The Chadian people are peace-loving. They are not hostile. They do not hate anyone. Yet Chad is clearly a victim of an attack. Its territory [words indistinct] to rob it of its past dignity and honor, its precious independence and liberty. The Chadian people have therefore [words indistinct]. Yes, we are acting in self-defense in the face of a pitiless, barbaric, faithless, and lawless conqueror. (?We are victims of a dramatic war that has ruined our economy). The enemies want to divide our people to exploit the country's immense resources.

We need to harness ourselves to economic and social development for the good of present and future generations. Chad is considered today one of the poorest countries on earth, although it has the potential to become a reasonably and relatively prosperous and self-sufficient nation. That is why it is necessary to restore peace and stability. That is why the Government of the Third Republic would like to draw the attention of the press, of the [words indistinct] to strive for peace, the cornerstone of any nation's development. Today we can assert without hesitation that the struggle for the development of any country cannot be achieved without harmony and national unity. National unity is gradually becoming a living reality in Chad. The extraordinary [words indistinct] the remotest areas of Chad in the face of the trials of war. There is active support for our fighting forces, and everyone has joined in the war effort in spite of the fact that the people are faced with social problems. This is proof of a growing national awareness and an expression of the fervent desire of an entire people to reject humiliation, domination, and slavery. Chadian men and women are determined to overcome any difficulties, make the necessary sacrifices, and save their honor by regaining their inalienable national rights.

We believe that it is possible through peace to achieve peace, stop the suffering of the Chadian people, and why not also the suffering of the Libyan people. We seriously welcome dialogue. The Chadian Government's stand on this issue is quite clear. Chad is ready to hold talks with the Libyan Government to find a peaceful solution to the war and and to put an end to the outdated yoke of colonialism that the Libyan regime has imposed on our country. We are prepared for any form of dialogue, and to meet in the framework of the OAU ad hoc committee in charge of the issue or in the framework of the UN Security Council, so the issue can be tackled on a purely bilateral [as heard] basis.

We realize that Tripoli has refused any peaceful solution to the problem. This is cynical, comical, and scandalous because Al-Qadhdhafi has peremptorily and solemnly asserted that Libya is not present in Chad, that it is not occupying any part of Chadian territory, and that it does not have any expansionist aims toward Chad. This is going too far with deception and scorn.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the face of such an attitude, in the face of the obstinate refusal of the Libyan regime to accept peace through dialogue, in the face of Al-Qadhdhafi's evident desire to colonize Chad through force of arms, the only choice Chad has left is to continue its national resistance against the foreign invader. Our cause is a just one. The methods we use are legal. Ours is a just battle. Although we cannot determine the sacrifices we will have to make nor the length of suffering we will have to endure, we can nevertheless assert that in the end victory will be ours. Ladies and gentlemen I thank you. I am now at your disposal.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think the conflict between Chad and Libyan can be settled with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi as head of the Libyan state?

[Habre] First, as to whether a settlement can be found to the conflict between Chad and Libya with Al-Qadhdhafi as head of Libya, I think that in regard to such an issue one must avoid (?political) speculation because, contrary to certain opinions, I have never considered Al-Qadhdhafi a fool or an imbecile. But if Al-Qadhdhafi continues to (?refuse a peaceful settlement) it would be impossible to continue (?tolerating him).

On the world scene, who has condemned Al-Qadhdhafi for his aggressive action? On the African scene, what reproach has been given to Al-Qadhdhfi? Contrary to the economic, financial, and other difficulties he is alleged to be facing, Al-Qadhdhafi seems to have enough means to continue this dirty war. [passage indistinct] As long as there is regional, international, and universal silence, Al-Qadhdhafi will continue to occupy part of Chad and to wage war. The day the situation seriously changes in spite of the [words indistinct] I know that we will pursue the war.

The day there is a serious change in Libya itself, the day Africa has the courage and sense of responsibility to unanimously tell Al-Qadhdhafi that enough is enough, that the era of colonialism is over, the era of slave raiding is also over, that Chad must be left alone, that its internationally-recognized borders must be respected, that we Africans can no longer tolerate the state of things, the day there is a change in the context and situation [words indistinct] it will be very realistic. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified reporter] In spite of the successive defeats suffered by the Libyan Army at the hands of the Chadian National Armed Forces, the war is likely to drag on if Chad does not receive aid from its partners, that is air support. If that happens to be the case, have you envisaged other solutions such as approaching other partners?

[Habre] First, for the sake of the honor of the Chadian people, of our national armed forces, the Chadians themselves must be aware of their responsibilities. Thanks to God they are aware of these responsibilities and they have been assuming them. It is up to the Chadians themselves to make the necessary sacrifices that will prove beneficial in the end to the Chadian nation.

This said, in regard to friendly relations, [words indistinct] the world being what it is, each and every country has its own problems, just as we do. Next, our problems do not concern our friends. The gestures they make, the help they give us falls in the framework of normal relations between states. Chad certainly benefits from these friendships and these international relations, which are on sound footing. Chad receives special help from its friends according to their means and in the framework of their relations with Chad.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] The OAU has the right to settle conflicts between states in a peaceful manner and to avoid war. This is in its charter. In regard to Chad there is an OAU ad hoc committee which was set up long ago to settle the issue but until now it has been ineffective for the simple reason that Libya refuses to appear before that committee. As a result, the OAU is paralyzed as far as the conflict between Chad and Libya is concerned. The OAU does not have the means to take action when it is faced with a state that refuses to be reasonable, that refuses to accept the terms of the OAU Charter. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified reporter] In this case should Chad continue to count on the OAU? Is the OAU competent enough to deal with this problem?

[Habre] One cannot judge the OAU. One must realize that the OAU comprises several states and these states are sovereign. The OAU does not have an army. It does not have its own resources. The OAU can undertake efficient action only if member-states play a straight game [words indistinct]. But if certain states refuse to cooperate with it, the OAU does not have the means of mobilizing itself to solve problems. As you are aware, it is faced with several political problems, for example major problems like the SDAR issue, the situation in southern Africa, Chad, and many other problems [words indistinct] The OAU has no control over member-states.

[Unidentified reporter] We realize that the OAU has taken up the Chadian issue again since the beginning of the year. You recently received the OAU secretary general and the Zairian president and you have received messages from the current OAU chairman. Does this mean that in spite of these efforts the OAU (?is inefficient?)

[Habre] I would like us to be realistic. [Words indistinct] the OAU has ideas. When problems arise the OAU tries to act.

But let us not deceive ourselves. Our crisis is an old one. Libya began occupying Chad a long time ago. It declared war on us a long time ago and has since been massacring our people. Naturally OAU leaders have been trying to do something about the situation but the success of their action will depend on the readiness and the willingness of the Libyan regime to accept peace.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] individually and some of them are your friends. Can you explain why no one has condemned Libya whereas everyone agrees that Libya has occupied northern Chad?

[Habre] Allow me to explain this to you. In the first place, there are at least a number of heads of state who have condemned — some African countries — who have condemned Libya. [Name indistinct], Zaire, Egypt. Others have condemned Libya less firmly, but what we are expecting, naturally, is that in the face of this tragedy, in the face of this serious and important problem, Africa should express its disapproval in a clear and firm manner. Once more I repeat that every state is sovereign and independent and every state has its own way of viewing the problem therefore, at our level, all we can expect and [words indistinct] is greater solidarity and I would even say more [word indistinct].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] What we are experiencing today testifies to the truth in what Gen de Gaulle said 40 years ago. I am sure he personally experienced it at the time of the liberation of France. He experienced to what extent states are cold monsters, and we in Chad are today experiencing the same thing.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] On several occasions we informed the UN Security Council of the Chad-Libya conflict. The Security Council is still examining the Chadian crisis but the Security Council [words indistinct]. We cannot say that we are ready to [words indistinct] since until now the Security Council has not unanimously adopted a clear and firm resolution condemning Libyan aggression against Chad and condemning Libyan occupation of Chadian territory.

[Reporter] Mr President, last time you underlined the geographical and strategic importance of Chad, Chad is a country which serves as a hinge between the Arab and black worlds, as a hinge between the African Christian world and the Islamic world. Chad also has greater nations as neighbors. There is military Libya, there is Nigeria, which could perhaps have a word to say, and Zaire is also greatly interested in the Chadian problem. It is possible that [words indistinct] transform Chad into an African hotbed?

[Habre] No, first, I do not think that Chad is the only country in the world with problems. There are [words indistinct] on this earth. Unfortunately, there are several other hotbeds here in Africa, in Asia, in the Middle East, in America and in Australia. One must admit that our present world has not attained a level of civilization which can enable it to put an end to armed conflicts defintively. However, one must not internationalize the conflict between Libya and Chad. Thanks to God, we have not yet reached that stage. At this moment, it is Chad that has been attacked. The aggressor is called Libya. If you want to tell us that there are certain countries which are interested in this problem, that is quite normal. Chad is not an isolated country. Chad is in a region and in this region, in this subregional zone, our neighbors are, first of all, more interested in our case than are those who are far away, but I consider that the interest shown by African countries does not necessarily mean that the Chadian crisis should automatically put states at loggerheads. At least that is not our wish. We hope that our friends and brothers will be able to help us, that they will use all their means and all their influence to end the war once and for all.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, the Islamic conference [words indistinct] What is your position in Chad since Libya is an Arab country? What is your position concerning the creation of [words indistinct] with Libya [words indistinct]?

[Habre] Concerning the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], Chad will naturally attend the conference. I am not able to tell you presently at which level. Chad is a member of the ICO as is Libya. We are a member of practically all the international organizations — both Libya and Chad. Naturally during this conference, Chad will raise the Chad-Libya conflict. It will request that the conference say something [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] I do not want to pass any judgment on France's foreign policy. What I can tell you is that relations between France and Chad are excellent. I can also tell you that France is very much concerned — and has always been concerned — with the Libyan aggression against Chad, the Libyan occupation of Chadian territory. I can also tell you that France has been giving considerable assistance to Chad during its difficulties, within the framework of cooperative relations and bonds of friendship existing between us.

Very often Chadians and French nationals meet. Chadian delegations go to France, to Paris, and French delegations come here. This is perfectly normal. From time to time they discuss issues concerning our bonds of cooperation and try to review our cooperation programs. It is within the framework of these relations that General Saulnier recently led a delegation here. During his stay, we were able to profoundly discuss our bonds of cooperation, more particularly in the military sector. I want to tell you that other delegations will also come. This is therefore a normal, regular process.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] Your question will certainly interest Al-Qadhdhafi more than me. [laughter] I would like to tell you that I recognize the importance of Gen Saulnier. He is the commander of the French Armed Forces. This attests to the degree, the importance, and the excellence of the relations between France and Chad. This also shows that the issues we discussed during his visit are very important.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] prevent President Reagan from sleeping. Can you explain why Reagan [words indistinct] against Libya?

[Habre] Certainly President Reagan is better placed to answer this question, but I am not very sure whether Col al-Qadhdhafi can prevent President Reagan from sleeping.

[Unidentified reporter] Comrade President, is it not the opposite? [laughter] [passage indistinct]

[Habre] It is very difficult to answer for African states. I said this a short while ago. Generally speaking, one must admit that almost all African states have problems. Almost all of them are very weak economically. Militarily they have no power, consequently one cannot ask African countries to achieve the impossible. We are trying to objectively understand our African brothers. But I must say that there are certain things that African countries can do and we expect them to show greater solidarity with Chad.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] You are asking us to restate our strategy and our methods. I will simply tell you that the war is not yet over and that Libya is greatly reinforcing its presence in northern Chad. I can even say specifically that, since the Fada encounter, Libya has doubled its troops in the North. It has also doubled its air and land force potential. Consequently, the war still continues. You will agree with me that our duty is to do whatever we can to weaken the enemy.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] It is quite normal that, after more than 20 years of war, our people aspire to peace. You asked if there is another solution. Theoretically yes — theoretically yes! There are international organizations; dialogue has always existed. But the problem is that the Libyan regime does not want the Chad-Libya conflict to be settled through dialogue and we are obliged to take into account this reality and to not lose sight of this reality because there are a lot of [word indistinct] teachers in the world — advisers, partisans of the easiest solution. But we have experienced many things. We have suffered the effects of napalm bombs and poisoned wells. We know what Libya is doing in the North. These are not signs of peace. There are bombardments day and night. As I said earlier, until now Al-Qadhdhafi has been denying the presence of his forces in Chad. What does this mean? This means that he wants to conquer Chad by force. This is a colonial enterprise. Colonialism has not disappeared, it has only changed form. New expressions have been found (?understand this,) it is Al-Qadhdhafi who has waged war on us and we are resisting it.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Habre] We have never fixed any conditions for negotiations [words indistinct].

[Reporter] So, although our friends hesitated in the past or continue to hesitate, now that the situation in the North is quite precise, are these friends still hesitating?

[Habre] We are still holding talks with friendly countries. These countries are making a great effort. Our needs are enormous so we expect more support than we presently receive. You must realize however that things do not work automatically between partners. We are still negotiating, and I can assure you that the atmosphere of our discussions is very positive. (?We hope they will be fruitful.)

[Unidentified reporter] An agreement was reached recently between Goukouni's National Liberation Army [ANL] and the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT]. [Words indistinct] what is the situation of the (?political) contacts and in this case (?can one conclude) that the national liberation process has definitively achieved its goals?

[Habre] The process has really begun and it is going on very well. Very shortly it will achieve its goals with [words indistinct] you can expect a positive outcome from the process. Concerning this, I can tell you that there is no problem and that (?things) are going fairly well. I can tell you that it is an achievement. I thank you ladies and gentlemen.

Habre To Ask ICO To Rule on Conflict With Libya

AB191620 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] President Habre this morning at his residence received the secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation [Ahmed Korom] and gave him instructions for the Islamic Conference Organization meeting. Ahmed Korom leaves our capital tonight for Kuwait where he will attend the ministerial session of that conference, the summit of which is scheduled for 26 January.

Our country attaches special importance to this conference as President Hissein Habre hinted about it last Saturday during his press conference. He said Chad would ask the Islamic Conference Organization to rule on the conflict between it and Libya, which is also a member of that organization.

GUNT President Oumar Comments on Libyan 'Help'

LD191537 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Another country which hopes the Chadian conflict will be settled within the framework of the OAU is Algeria. President of the new Chad GUNT, Acheikh ibn Oumar Taib, has gone there. Yesterday he saluted what he calls the courageous position of the Algerian Government concerning Chad. He explained that he arrived in Algiers to inform the authorities about what he calls the systematic campaign of disinformation and brainwashing by the Western media which, according to him, allegedly attempt to present this problem as being strictly between Chad and Libya. Acheikh ibn Oumar Taib said that, even though Libya may help us, it is not up to it to fight in our place, and we have never asked it to send troops to the frontline.

If we understand this correctly, it represents a criticism of Tripoli's stance regarding the latest fighting.

Ndjamena Calls Jallud Syria Exile 'Diversion'

AB162127 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Tripoli's crimes are now tolling the knell of its regime. Al-Qadhdhafi's second in command, 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, seems to have departed from Tripoli. He and his family have been in Syria since 24 November. This speaks for itself. In the days ahead, we will probably better understand what one can now describe as a retirement.

Jallud, who is often regarded as the mastermind of the Libyan military expedition in Chad, is in fact a mere executor of Al-Qadhdhafi's dirty designs. Al-Qadhdhafi is the only true mastermind of the destructive operations which affect the Libyan and Chadian peoples. Jallud is merely a medium.

From all indications, what is now taking place in northern Chad seems to have been masterminded by Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, the Libyan number two man. But Al-Qadhdhafi, the number one man, is [words indistinct]. He is not the kind of man who would delegate authority to someone else, especially on Chad, which he considers an exclusively personal affair. Al-Qadhdhafi is the only (?author) of Libya's the expansionist policy and the only architect of his country's military intervention in Chad. Indeed, he is assisted in his various undertakings by a few men, including Jallud. But such assistance is only needed in the execution phase. Jallud, Al-Masri, Al-Turayki, Riffi, and their associates are only the executors of the shady designs of their master, Al-Qadhdhafi. All initiatives are made by Al-Qadhdhafi alone.

The theory according to which Jallud is the principal initiator of the latest Libyan military adventure in northern Chad can only be endorsed by those who want to fall into the trap of Libya's policy. This policy is marked by diversionary maneuvers. One cannot rule out the possibility that Jallud's prolonged stay in Syria is in line with that policy of diversion. Once Jallud has been sent into exile, Al-Qadhdhafi can bring Goukouni back into the limelight as if to say: It is not me, it is Goukouni.

Meanwhile, the tendency to portray the Libyan number two man as the man of the West [words indistinct]. But one thing is certain: he is an Al-Qadhdhafi man. His official role, which has never been clearly defined, is only to (?bear the blame) in place of his leader, and he likes the role. In this regard, Al-Qadhdhafi's image is thus (?untouched) in the eyes of the Libyan people. His long political life is accounted for by the fact that his aides [words indistinct] have always swallowed bitter pills without any reluctance and they have always born the blame in his place. In any case, whether Al-Qadhdhafi or Jallud, neither have [words indistinct] Chadians do not understand the Libyan aggression against their country.

BURKINA FASO

Suspects in Grenade Attack Attempt To Face Trial

AB200948 Paris AFP in French 0912 GMT
20 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Abidjan, 20 Jan (AFP) — Two Burkinabe nationals will soon be put on trial on charges of plotting to launch grenade attacks during French President Francois Mitterrand's official visit to Ouagadougou on 17 and 18 November 1986, it was learned from an authoritative source in the Burkinabe capital.

The two men were said to have acted at the request of a foreign power, it was indicated in Ouagadougou, where it is privately admitted that the foreign power is Togo. [passage omitted]

GHANA

Envoy Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Message to Rawlings

AB192041 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] An envoy of the Libyan leader, Dr Said Hafyana, today delivered a special message from Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, at the Castle, Osu. Dr Hafyana also briefed Chairman Rawlings on recent events in Chad. The briefing took place behind closed doors.

Dr Hafyana told newsmen later that he explained to Chairman Rawlings the dangers posed by the French and American military intervention in Chad and how the Habre faction in the dispute is trying to transform Chad into a base of aggression against Libya and other African countries. He said the presence of French and American troops in Chad could transform an internal conflict into an international situation like what is happening in the Middle East, South Asia, and Central America.

Dr Hafyana said both Ghana and Libya agree that the Chadian problem is an African one and should be solved by Africans with the efforts of the OAU. He said the only solution to the problem should be the evacuation of the imperialist forces. Dr Hafyana pointed out that France is a European country and Libya an African country so there is a big difference between the two governments in their relations with Chad. He said Libya finds itself obliged to protect its borders because the strategy of the Habre group and the imperialist forces is to transform Chad into a base for aggression against Libya. He added there is no contradiction in interest and goals between imperialist France and America because this strategy is complementary. We are facing the same policy adopted by France and the United States in 1978 and 1979.

On the whereabouts of Mr Goukouni Oueddei, the former leader of the Transitional Government of National Unity of Chad, GUNT, Dr Hafyana explained that he is in Libya and in good health. He is not under house arrest and moves about freely. Dr Hafyana said Goukouni can still go to his home town as a chief if he chooses, but he cannot be a political leader because the political situation has changed and the current president of the GUNT is Mr Acheikh ibn Oumar.

NIGER

Kountche Interviewed on Health, Chad Fighting

AB200842 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Interview with Niger President Seyni Kountche by unidentified Radio France International correspondent in Niamey on 19 January — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr President, before examining general political issues, I would like to enquire about your health. You were in Paris for a few days at the end of last year.

[Kountche] If my illness prevented me from assuming my duties, I would not be here with you now and [words indistinct] the medical tests I went through at the Paris hospital, where I was admitted. If the illness could prevent me from effectively carrying out my duties, [words indistinct] [passage indistinct]. I will return to Paris in a few days for another medical checkup to see if everything is all right. But I am doing fine now, [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Thank you, Mr President, for these details which [words indistinct]. Now I would like us to examine political issues, especially the Chadian conflict. How does your country, a neighbor of Chad and Libya, view the Chadian-Libyan conflict?

[Kountche] [Passage indistinct] As you said, we are concerned with the Libyan conflict (?because) it is at our doorstep and could have repercussions for us. You know that part of the Niger territory is [words indistinct] and we do not want Niger to be involved in any way in the conflict. This means we do not want any of the sides to question our neutrality.

This notwithstanding, we have always said that the Chadian problem can (?only) be solved in two ways: First, through the reconciliation of all the Chadian [words indistinct] under OAU auspices. The second way is an idea that has been gaining ground; specifically, some call for a referendum while others call for holding free elections so the Chadian people can elect their representatives. Once the people have chosen their representatives, the OAU and the international community must respect the neutrality of this (?free country). Apart from these two ways, we see no other way out. The Chadian problem cannot be solved through the barrel of a gun.

[Reporter] Mr President, to hold a referendum as you have just mentioned, the Libyans must first leave Chadian territory. How can one envisage a Libyan withdrawal from Chad?

[Kountche] Libya is an OAU member-state. The OAU, and especially its current chairman, must create the necessary conditions. I believe there is an ad hoc committee on Chad comprising a number of countries [words indistinct]. This committee can be summoned for a meeting either on the occasion of the regular

OAU summit, or else — and why not — at an extraordinary summit, in view of the gravity of the sitution. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] If I understand you, Mr President, you suggest that the OAU should hold an extraordinary summit devoted to the settlement of the Chadian problem.

[Kountche] Because the Chadian tragedy affects all (?its neighbors) and [words indistinct] since 1964 or 1965. We are now in 1987 and (?the conflict has lasted) a quarter of a century. In spite of the current economic situation, I believe that if the OAU wants to settle the Chadian problem, it should give the possibility of achieving peace to the Chadians by (?addressing itself) to the question.

[Reporter] Mr President, let us return to the situation between Chad and Libya. You just talked about the vastness of your territory, in particular the eastern part of Niger. That area is largely desert. Can you be certain right now that you can control this portion of your country? People talk about the presence of foreign troops, in particular some Libyan columns. Can you protect your country's population in that eastern area against foreign troops?

[Kountche] What I can say is that within the limits of our administrative laws, we have been policing our borders and at this very moment I am granting you this interview [passage indistinct]. To the best of my knowledge, since assuming duties as president and minister of defense, elements of Libyan or Chadian troops have never carried out an incursion into our territory. But I can tell you that both Libya and Chad are confronting the problem of desert encroachment and the problem of lack of habitat in that area. Do not forget that a large portion of eastern Niger, that is the area between Seguedine and Faya-Largeau — a distance of nearly 250 km — is uninhabited. Therefore, I cannot guarantee, knowing well what our borders are, that there were not incursions. What I can affirm is that Niger will not allow either Chadian or Libyan troops, or any other troops, to use its territory to attacks others.

[Reporter] Your relations with Ndjamena as well as with Tripoli are quite normal. However, there was a dispute between you and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi some years ago.

[Kountche] We maintain very good relations with Ndjamena and in particular with Hissein Habre, that country's leader. We have very good relations with Libya, even though these have witnessed some problems. We currently have some Niger nationals living in Tripoli who have other intentions. Their roving ambassador was here the day before yesterday. Having made this point, I can say that Libya and Algeria are Niger's neighbors. The late Sekou Toure used to say that one can choose one's friends but not one's neighbors. We just have to accommodate them, whatever the state of our (?relations).

[Reporter] Mr President, let us talk about your country's economic situation. Niger has been self-sufficient in food production for more than 2 years, but problems have arisen in the past few months. One problem is the locusts that are destroying crops. Another problem is the fall in the price of uranium, your country's chief product. How do you see your country's current economic situation and how do you plan to solve these two problems?

[Kountche] Niger's economic situation is not different from that of other countries. Niger and the IMF as well as the World Bank are implementing some programs. Niger is a developing country, if not an underdeveloped country. It is among the least developed countries. Moreover, it is a (?cereals producing) country. But the paradox is that agricultural production has been good. There has been much rainfall. If I said that we have a paradoxical situation, it was because we have the locusts and the rodents [words indistinct]. We must take necessary measures before the next rainfall. We have been fighting the locust invasion with assistance from the EEC, the U.S. International Development Agency, France, and Algeria. We have been able to defend the farmers against this invasion but we must implement the necessary measures in this area for the next agricultural campaign. Niger recorded some deficits in the area of basic food production [words indistinct] the peanuts and cotton production. You should not forget that we have a textile factory. Now I am going to touch on a very serious issue; namely, uranium. For the first time, our national uranium company recorded poor sales of roughly (?1230) cubic meters. This will result in a reduction of working hours and a retrenchment of some laborers. [Passage indistinct] South Africa is the largest African uranium producer. So, we must be serious. [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Are you blaming the Western countries for teaming up with South Africa [words indistinct].

[Kountche] No, I do not want to mention names. I only take note of the situation that is affecting us.

[Reporter] Mr President, I thank you.

NIGERIA

Libyan UN Envoy in Lagos for Consultations

AB161432 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] The Libyan ambassador to the United Nations, Dr 'Ali al-Turayki, has called for closer cooperation between his country and Nigeria to enable them to restore peace in Chad.

He told correspondents at Murtala Mohammed Airport yesterday that since Nigeria and Libya shared common boundaries with Chad, both countries owed it a duty to insure peace in that war-torn region. Dr al-Turayki blamed the situation in Chad on the intervention of foreign troops in that country's internal affairs, pointing out that unless the trend was stopped, the war was bound to escalate.

The Libyan ambassador said that Nigeria was an important factor in world politics and that as a result, had a role to play in finding solutions to Africa problems. He accused those who he referred to as imperialists of dominating the African economy and said that there was urgent need for Nigeria and Libya to liberate all countries in Africa still under the yoke of imperialism. Libya, he said, supports the establishment of an African high command, adding that his country was ready to send troops to South Africa to fight the apartheid government there.

The Libyan envoy is in the country to represent his country's leader for consultations with officials of the Federal Government.

Meets With Babangida

AB161603 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida has reiterated Nigeria's stand that a military action is not the best way to solve the Chadian crisis. The president stated this when he received the three-man Libyan delegation led by a special envoy of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, Mr 'Ali al-Turayki. Major General Babangida said that Nigeria was receptive to the Libyan proposals for a fresh attempt to be made by neighboring African countries to find a lasting solution to the Chadian crisis. He said that the Federal Government would give due consideration to the Libyan request to open a People's Bureau in Lagos to facilitate bilateral cooperation with Nigeria.

Meanwhile, Nigeria and Libya have pledged their commitment to the withdrawal of all non-Chadian forces from Chad. This is contained in a communique issued today after a meeting between the special Libyan envoy, Dr 'Ali al-Turayki, and the External Affairs Minister Prof Bolaji Akinyemi. Both countries said they were committed to national reconciliation in Chad.

Libya and Nigeria said they regarded Chad as an African problem which required an African solution. To this end, they have decided to hold consultations with Chad and the neighboring countries as well as the main actors in the Chadian crisis.

TODAY Terms Shultz Visit 'Brutish, Meaningless'

AB180638 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 18 Jan 87

[From the Press Review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper *Today* says the recent visit by the U.S. secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, to the country, witnessed one of the lowest points in the conduct of the nation's foreign relations. The paper believes that the contemptuous behavior of American officials during the visit suggests that the United States is not unduly eager to win friends in Nigeria.

Describing the visit as short, brutish, and meaningless, *Today* wonders why the minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, decided not to make an official complaint to the U.S. Government over the behavior of some officials during the visit.

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE

AFP: President Conducts Ministerial Reshuffle

AB192159 Paris AFP in French 2120 GMT
19 Jan 87

[Text] Libreville, 19 Jan (AFP) — Here is the composition of the new government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe formed Saturday [17 January] by President Manuel Pinto da Costa:

President of the Republic, head of government and minister of economy and planning
Costa, Manuel Pinto da
(former minister of foreign affairs)
Minister of Territorial Administration and defense
Neto, Raul Brangaca
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Costa, Guillermo Posser da
(former ambassador to Brussels)

Minister of Cooperation
Fradique de Menezes

Minister of Commerce, Industry and Fishing
Gomes, Carlos Brangaca

Minister of Finance and Governor of the Bank of Sao Tome and Principe
Rita, Prudencio

Minister of Transport and Communications
Costa, Tome Dias da

Minister of Education, Labor and Social Security
Costa, Celestino Rocha da
da (former minister of social affairs)

Minister of Justice and Public Affairs
Pires, Francisco Fortunado

Minister of Information
Neto, Barbosa (former director of the radio)

Minister of Health
Sequeira, Frederico
Jose Henriques

Minister of Agriculture
Souza, Oscar Aguiar
Sacramento de

ANGOLA

Soviet, Cuban Forces Reorienting Strategy

MB190928 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0900 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] It is reported from Lisbon that the latest military events on the Angolan war front suggest that the Soviets and Cubans have radically changed their strategy. Plans to launch a major offensive against UNITA positions in the south of the country appear to have been abandoned. The report says that the Marxist forces are now being used to strengthen Angolan Government strongholds in the north of the country and in the Cabinda enclave. Since the beginning of the year, approximately 5,000 Cuban troops have been moved from southern Angolan to Cabinda and to positions in the mountains northeast.

MOZAMBIQUE

'No Comment' on Claim of Tampering With Plane

MB161541 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] There has been no comment from the Mozambican side on the statement by Maarten Venter, head of a South African Government department, that someone could have tampered with certain instruments on the plane in which President Samora Machel lost his life. [Words indistinct] refused to comment on Venter's statement and limited himself to recalling that the first delegation to visit Mbuzini after the plane crash did so more than 14 hours after the crash. While some members of the delegation were identifying the dead, others photographed the instruments without touching them.

Venter told the South African newspaper *Beeld* that he had come across marks indicating that someone had attempted to alter the instruments' settings. During their visit to the site of the crash, the Mozambicans were accompanied by South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha, Commissioner of Police General Coetzee, and other South African officials.

Machungo Reads Economic Program to Legislature

MB151125 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1800 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Address by Mario Machungo, Mozambican prime minister and deputy of the People's Assembly, to the People's Assembly in Maputo on 14 January — recorded]

[Text] Members of the People's Assembly, excellencies, members of the Standing Commission, Deputies, invited guests: We would like to salute your excellencies on your election to this august assembly, and to praise your unwavering dedication to the cause of the Mozambican people, before we present the draft on the economic rehabilitation program and the draft laws on the state plan and state plan budget. Comrade Marcelino dos Santos, your firmness in the defense of the revolutionary ideals in the past and present make you a notable example, as a son of the people, who has sacrificed everything for their benefit. [applause].

During the 16th People's Assembly session, guidelines were outlined for our country's economic rehabilitation and for the reorganization of the Mozambique Armed Forces, to improve the general task of carrying out our struggle based on higher and better production and a more rational use of our scarce material and financial resources. On the economic front, reorganization measures concerning the state apparatus and economy were adopted. We introduced changes in working methods and we prepared programs for economic rehabilitation whose general guidelines will be presented.

However, we believe a brief reference to the current economic situation in Mozambique and its main causes is important. Thus, allow me to make a description, albeit a summarized one, of the economic situation in Mozambique. Up to 1981, we had achieved notable successes in the production sector, which had fallen soon after national independence. This recovery was made notwithstanding the damage caused by the implementation of sanctions against Rhodesia, the aggression carried out by Smith's army, and the negative effects of natural disasters. So 1981 was the best economic year for our country. The gross national product grew 15 percent from 1977 to 1981; exports of cashew nuts, cotton, and coal reached record levels; and exports doubled in relation to 1986, reaching a value of $285 million [as heard].

On the educational front, the illiteracy rate was reduced by 21 percent from 1975 to 1980. We expanded and improved health structures. We were creating a new economic and social class which would allow us to overcome underdevelopment, dependence, and poverty, in a more just society without any kind of discrimination where man through his work would assume, with dignity, his role as the true driver of economic and social change in that society.

We outlined and initiated the implementaiton of the state plan which established the main guidelines for changing our economic structure to overcome our economic dependence. The successes and clarity of our objectives turned us into the main target in this region. The destabilizing and aggressive actions then started against our country. The economic targets increasingly became the favorite targets. Since 1982, the enemy has started a large-scale plan of destabilization, destruction of our young nation, and destruction of everything included in our will to break with a past of dependence and slavery, in order to eliminate this project of peace and equality, this project aimed at achieving our people's aspirations. Since 1982, the apartheid regime has engaged in its plan of concerted and systematic destruction of our economy. Development has diminished by an average of 11.5 percent over the 1982-1985 period. Our economy declined. The gross national product, which had been 84.1 million contos in 1981, decreased to 53.3 million contos in 1985 with referrence to 1980 prices.

Our economy's increasing weakness worsened our state of dependency and prevented the use of resources in the production sector, thus forcing us to divert resources for the defense of our independence and sovereignty, due to the war situation.

In 1981, we used 38.2 percent of the national income for our economy's recovery; in other words, for the development and expansion of our economy. A total of 53.2 percent was used for consumption and 8.6 percent for exports.

In 1985, only 23.7 percent of the national income was used for (?production), while 70.9 percent was used for consumption, and only 5.3 for the export sector.

This shows a consumption trend in our economy as well as an increasing dependency on other countries. [Words indistinct] we were working within our potential in the previous period. We were using an increasing number of resources for our economy's expansion process to guarantee our economy's growth. From 1981, however, circumstances forced us to use and consume beyond the gross national product for direct consumption purposes. Very little was used for our economy's expansion, which in turn meant very little growth and stagnation.

Dear deputies, in order to understand our economic situation better, we must also analyze the finance sector of the economy. We must see how the money is distributed. Production is adjusted to the needs of the moment. We must look into this to decide on measures aimed at correcting management.

The National Planning Commission balances the people's revenue and expenses annually. The increasing scarcity of service goods, which increased from 1981 onward, has caused the population to hold approximately 8 million contos [one conto equal 1,000 meticals] in 1985, as opposed to around 3 million contos in 1980. This causes excessive money (?offers) for the payment of service goods. This excess of money results in the workers' reduced purchasing power in comparison with 1980. Purchasing power has decreased to 50 percent throughout the country and 25 percent in Maputo. This, in turn, has resulted in a general tendency to seek additional money sources. All means are used for this purpose: currency and the search for [word indistinct] goods. We are witnessing a worrisome degradation of social and moral values. This reflects a difficult economic situation which is quite evident in the country's financial sector. Production slumps, the development of illegal trade, and the embezzlement of goods from enterprises, the government, and democratic mass organizations, as well as corruption and smuggling, are factors which reflect negatively on state finance.

To face growing state expenditure, mounting deficits in enterprises under state intervention, and debt servicing (?at bank prices) [words indistinct] through (?issuing money) and foreign resources.

External debt is increasing, as are unpaid (?debt) installments. The situation is such that, with external debt interest to pay, this represented roughly 130 percent of exports in 1985. In 1986, the situation worsened even further, because the interest we owed was twice the amount of our exports. This means that our exports could not pay the interest alone. In concrete and real terms, this means that at the current rate of work neither our generation, nor the next one, nor those to come will pay the current debt of the People's Republic of Mozambique. [Words indistinct] this is the problem, if the present situation continues. If we maintain our present export levels, it will not be possible to pay our debts, which in turn will make it more difficult for us to secure new loans.

In the financial world, the banks are aware that this is the situation. It is similar to relations between people: If you lend me 500 meticals and I pay next month, I will be able to borrow again. But if I borrow and fail to pay, and do not even say when I intend to pay, then I will get no further credit. And those [words indistinct] again. It is simply like that. [Sentence indistinct] However, if I pay [words indistinct] meticals (?before the end of the month), I can go again 2 days later and say: Do you know what? I need another 500 meticals [words indistinct].

Do you understand this? This is how the business world functions: We must pay to fetch more. Thus, we have to work to pay. This situation (?has prevented) maintenance by administrative means in an (?artificial) manner for a long time. Unemployment and price levels have had serious repercussions throughout the economy. It has indiscriminately affected all people and the rural population in particular.

Our heroic peasant people, who have been the targets of massacres and destruction, are being deprived of the schools and hospitals we had built with our selfless work over these 11 years of struggle. More than 500 health units have been destroyed, thus hindering medical assistance to about 3 million people. More than 300,000 children have been deprived of schooling. Efforts to supply the rural areas with industrial goods have been seriously affected, bringing nakedness and misery to many thousands of peasants. In the urban areas, where the majority of the working class lives, the standard of living has dropped as a result of deteriorating economic activity evidenced by the proliferation of smuggling, which is organized at the internal level by the enemies of the (?working class).

The disparity between official prices and black market prices is enormous. The imbalance in the people's income and expenses partially explains existing price differences. These differences become more easily understood when we take into account the amount of money in the hands of a small group of our population. It is this colossal amount of money that promotes the foreign exchange black market. Meticals are transferred from that small group to other social groups that are more interested in consumption. Millions of dollars are transacted annually in that market and transferred out of the country, thus increasing demand beyond supply.

The foreign exchange smugglers are also those who promote black marketeering, thus contributing to our currency's degrading depreciation. In fact, the official metical rate is 2.5 U.S. cents. However, on the black market, the value of the metical is 40 times lower, from .02 U.S. cents to [words indistinct]. In other words, the black market $1 fetches 1,500 or 1,600 meticals. Sometimes it goes up to 1,800 meticals. The official price is 39, 40, or 41 meticals for $1. In practical terms, the metical has been devalued. The black market deals in our completely devalued metical. This in turn reflects on the value of goods. The process is the same with goods. A total of 90 percent of the urban family's budget goes to the black market. It is enough to cite [words indistinct] to understand (?the effects) of the black market.

Premeditated disorganization of the urban transport system has led to the development of illegal transport, known as [words indistinct], at prices inaccessible to the worker. The lack of liquid and (?wood) fuel has led to the development of speculation. In the black market, a bar of soap costs about 1,500 meticals. The official price is around 30 meticals. A kilogram of salt costs roughly 200 meticals while a kilogram of corn meal costs about 200 meticals. A liter of cooking oil costs from 1,200 to 1,500 meticals. [Words indistinct](?100 meticals, which corresponds to more than 500 meticals per a kilogram [words indistinct]. The list of these products can be enlarged: six little pieces of wood, which are not even enough to cook two meals, cost 10 meticals. With fewer than 100 meticals, it is practically impossible for anyone to buy anything. At least in the part of the city, nobody buys anything with less than that.

The spiraling prices on the black market show the imbalances and distortions present in our economy. They also show the degree of deterioration of the standard of living as well as devaluation of the metical. At best, in 1984 you could buy half of the goods that 100 meticals would have fetched in 1981.

Deputies, ladies, and gentlemen, deterioration (?since) 1982 has been primarily caused by external destabilization promoted by the apartheid regime. The damage this action has caused to Mozambique has often been mentioned. However, we believe it is important to refer in general terms to the consequences of destabilization in the economic field.

Destabilization against Mozambique has operated at all levels, but especially at the military and economic levels. As a result, we must take into account both quantitative damage, which includes destroyed infrastructure and units such as vehicles, locomotives, and other machinery, and the profound effects that the loss of 100,000 people murdered by the armed bandits has had on Mozambique's economic structure.

With regard to direct and indirect damage [words indistinct] action by the apartheid regime began immediately after national independence. [Words indistinct] reduction of the number of Mozambican workers in South Africa. This number decreased from 113,000 miners in 1970 to 47,000 in 1982. This drastic reduction, to less than 40 percent of the original number, increased the number of unemployed in southern Mozambique, because it was not possible to create 70,000 new jobs for outstanding manpower over the short 1975-76 period and in the following years. This also led to a loss of revenue of approximately $600 million.

The apartheid regime's action was also reflected in the reduction of the traffic of goods through Maputo port, which decreased from about 7 million tons in 1973 to less than a million tons in 1985. The South African Government unilaterally rescinded the 1928 accord on gold. This accord provided for the utilization of 60 percent of the salaries due to Mozambican miners in South Africa for the purchase of gold at a fixed price of ($29.5) per ounce.

This gold, which was sold at the international market price, brought considerable revenue to Mozambique between 1975 and 1978. However, from 10 April 1978, the apartheid government unilaterally fixed gold sales at the official price of $29.75 an ounce, which resulted in the loss of about $3 billion in revenue in the 1978-82 period alone. This amount is almost equal to our external debt.

Combined losses resulting from South Africa's sanctions against Mozambique, as well as direct and indirect aggression, are estimated at $5 billion.

Constant acts of provocation along the borders, sabotage against economic targets, and armed attacks directly involving South African forces or indirectly through the armed bandits further weakened Mozambique's economy due to the destruction of locomotives, railroads, bridges, production centers, and power lines as well as damage to [word indistinct] and equipment and the murder of workers' leaders. This type of action, which is the principal characteristic of aggression, is aimed at increasing our country's economic dependency and hindering regional cooperation involving nine independent countries, neighbors of South Africa, in the SADCC context.

Besides these losses, destabilization against our country has caused great upheaval in the economic and financial systems, as we mentioned earlier. Our political objectives and the fall of the colonial system itself made us seek a new economic system. This completely new economic system had already become part of our structures and was being followed by our cadres. However, constant acts of aggression prevented the country's economy from functioning normally. It stalled the process of strengthening our new economy which was being consolidated.

The traffic of people and goods no longer follow economic rules, and thus strangles and hinders all activities. Some vital economic sectors, notably transport, communications, and energy no longer satisfy our (?consumer) needs, leading to a chain reaction of negative effects. The fundamental cause of our country's difficult economic situation lies in the strategy of destabilization against the People's Republic of Mozambique, especially by the apartheid regime. However, there are also other internal causes which, although not decisive, are important when they are combined with the more serious causes. We are referring to organizational problems in economic management and the lack of cadres. In order to overcome these problems, we must constantly try to improve our work methods and maintain cadre training and improvement. We still suffer from a major lack of cadres, especially cadres with specific qualifications and skills. This also constitutes a serious obstacle to production rehabilitation, which contributes toward a continued managerial vacuum, which in turn makes it more difficult to place and integrate recently trained cadres.

Mr Chairman of the People's Assembly, deputies, there is a need to adopt urgent financial and economic measures to solve the serious problems facing our country. In this context, a program of economic rehabilitation has been drafted. This program contains a series of objectives and actions that must be carried out within the framework of annual plans at both the central and sectorial levels.

The program of economic rehabilitation aims at reactivating production and gradually reducing financial imbalances. With regard to production reactivation, priority goes to the agrarian sector, particularly the family agricultural sector. Economic rehabilitation must begin in rural areas, because it is only with the full utilization of rural areas that we can ensure an increase in the production of raw materials for national industry and for export, as well as food surplus to supply urban populations.

The activation of family agricultural production and the marketing and distribution of this production are the central points of the economic rehabilitation program. Besides the agrarian sector, this program will involve the field of industry, particularly light industry, railroad and road transport, and commercial activity.

With regard to material production, the principal products aimed at in the economic rehabilitation program are cashew nuts, cotton, copra, corn, and rice.

The reactivation of production also involves the reactivation of the commercial agrarian sector, an increase in railroad traffic, particularly international railroad traffic, an increase in the utilization of industrial potential through the proper placement of external resources into the priority sectors, particularly those directly or indirectly connected with exports and supply to the people, and the reactivation of the civil construction sector and the rehabilitation of construction materials industry to ensure indispensable support to priority sectors and the supply of construction material to rural areas.

The economic rehabilitation program presupposes a significant increase in economic activity over the present level. Accordingly, it is thought that between 1987 and 1990 we shall have reached an average annual increase of 29 percent in the family production sector; an average annual increase of 23 percent in the field of transport; an average annual increase of 17 percent in the field of commercial agricultural sector; and an average annual increase of 12 percent in the field of industry, particularly in the fields of light and food industry. It is also thought the level of exports and revenue obtained from railroads and harbors will reach $300 million in 1990 against $135 million expected for 1987.

Mr Chairman of the People's Assembly, deputies, apart from the efforts to reactivate production within the framework of the economic rehabilitation program, appropriate measures will be taken to reduce imbalances present in our economy by introducing changes in budget and fiscal policy, salary policy, price policy, credit policy, and monetary and money market policy.

With regard to budget policy, we shall deal with it when we present the budget law draft. Fiscal policy will receive special attention in our proceedings. As for salary policy, we have, under labor laws, approved the country's salary organization, stipulating the salary scale in accordance with the complexity of work in different posts and the division of work as established in the national economy code, computing each person's salary in accordance with work rendered, providing for optional payment which may come under the form of granting bonus for efficiency and seniority at work. Also established is the principle of reward which would allow workers and leading cadres to have a share in the profits of enterprises under certain conditions.

Enterprises must be profitable. The assessment of their merit in the national economy will depend on their profits. This means that enterprises, with the means at their disposal and operating with relatively sufficient management autonomy, must be efficient. In order to correctly assess their effectiveness and efficiency, they must possess a well-organized bookkeeping program that would enable them to correctly determine all their costs and profits. Without good bookkeeping, the enterprise cannot go very far.

Thus, we must have a minimally organized accounting system that will permit us to say: Look, this has already been done; this is the profit; machinery wear and tear cost so much in the production of the following products; and this is the result at these prices.

Without this, we should produce 50 or 100 units and, without measuring production, it is impossible to assess the efficiency of any economy. Our effort in forthcoming years must be directed toward scientific work organization. It will begin with the renovation of the accounting of each enterprise's patrimony. We have to move forward. The managers of the most important enterprises must take charge of accounting and responsibility will fall on the director of the enterprise. Enterprise activity must be carried out by all structures. We must overcome the (?phase of) [word indistinct] and achieve our objective.

Let us say that we achieved our objective by 80 percent. But only 80 percent means that the objective was not achieved, or fulfilled. The goal was not attained by 20 percent. However, this information is not enough; was it efficient or not? Was it worth it or not? Sometimes, the goal may be 100 percent achieved and yet it was not worth it. The costs exceeded compensation. We experience this in our everyday economic life. We cannot, for example, spend $20 to produce one bag of corn. We could import it for a lot less [words indistinct]. We cannot spend $20 or $30 on fuel to produce one bag of corn. We cannot spend this on fuel alone. I am not talking about compost and so forth and so on. It was not worth producing so many bags if the costs were too great for the country's economy. These costs are, in fact, untenable for the country's economy. The criterion must be one of efficient utilization of our most important resources.

Enterprise activity must be geared toward securing maximum results at minimum costs. We must produce more in the same industrial unit. We cannot continue in the present situation whereby average real production per hour is decreasing at the national level. In fact, with the working time at our disposal — remember that each year is 365 days long — even if you subtract Sundays and Saturday, look at the number of production hours at our disposal. This is our great wealth: life and the time we have to work and produce. This is the great wealth that we can transform into material goods. Our wealth is our health and the time at our disposal for work so that we can transform things into things that satisfy our fundamental requirements.

As I have said before, we cannot continue in this situation whereby average real production per hour is decreasing at the national level. In fact, with the pool of working time at our disposal, gross national product was about $1 per hour in 1980. In 1986, it came down to less than $0.50 per working hour. This means that our productivity in 8 hours effectively corresponded to 3 hours in 1986. To overcome this situation, we must produce five times more per each hour of work until 1990. To this end, we must make our working place a place where production is efficient from the first to last minute. It must be a center of intensive progressive activity. If we do things this way, we are bound to win. Our national per capita income will increase approximately four times, which will have positive effects on public consumption levels.

This task is also going to demand a great effort to use imported goods efficiently. This will permit us to overcome this phase where we must import 36 units to produce 100. We must move into a phase where we will only require 32 units to produce the same 100 units. We are capable of achieving this goal, and we have proof of that. There is a need to save more and more [words indistinct]. This means there is the need for establishing a correct work and control organization, which in turn means we must not waste a grain of corn, a drop of fuel, the slightest bit of compost, or a gram of lubricant.

[Words indistinct] in the textile industry, and so on and so forth. With regard to agricultural production, we cannot afford the luxury of leaving any bit of cotton, any nut or coconut, or any ear of corn uncollected. If every worker saves...[Machungo changes thought] this issue of saving becomes very important with time. The worker must employ his time usefully. If every worker saves half a cent of a dollar per working hour (?without wasting) [words indistinct] gasoline that is spilled on the ground, oil that stays in the same place and becomes useless, and compost that is put in the wrong place and is subsequently spoiled by rain, all this goes to show that there is the need to produce more and more. At the present rate, this generation will never pay its debt. However, if we work well and rationally, and if we use our products correctly, it will suffice to make an effort so that if every worker can save half a cent of a dollar per working hour we will be able to save about $8 million in Mozambique per year. Thus, we can [words indistinct] over 3 or 4 months. The country's needs can easily be satisfied for 3 or 4 months, if we save half a cent of a dollar per working hour.

(?It is obvious) that we must work conscientiously and responsibly.At each working center, we must be aware of the cost of imported products. If we use those products correctly, we can assess the work of each unit through concrete results by assessing whether each unit, each working post, each department, each sector, and each brigade manages to produce the same amount of goods with less expenditure. (?Work conscientiousness) is not assessed through words. It is assessed through concrete deeds and work results that reflect individual or collective worth.

Only with the implementation of these and other rules will it be possible to distinguish good workers and punish bad ones. However, it will also be necessary to outline a body of financial rules to control the growth of the salary fund, which is an important component, especially with regard to salary increases.

With regard to prices, it is necessary to [words indistinct] in vital (?areas) that continue to accumulate excessive profits in the commercial sphere to the detriment of the productive sphere. Thus, our new price policy will have the following objectives: to make the majority of agrarian, industrial, transport, and construction enterprises viable; to take into account current capacity usage, work (?diversification) and [words indistinct] in management units; to stimulate trade production by the family sector, at least among small- and medium-sized agrarian producers; to eliminate or substantially reduce the existing financial imbalance between demand and supply of goods to the population; and to impede significant (?increases) in the real value of salaries (?over and above family sector revenue).

Direct and indirect state intervention in price fixing will be done in the following manner: consumer prices will only be fixed in the case of basic goods and producer prices will be fixed in the case of principal agricultural products. General and specific criteria will be defined to permit enterprises to decide on prices within certain limits. The restricted practice of uncontrolled prices will continue. This price policy will not only ensure that the above-mentioned objectives are achieved, but it should also stem the current flow of exaggerated and illegal profits into the hands of black marketeers. To this end, the government will continue to use administrative mechanisms (?and all must engage) in this struggle against black marketeering.

With regard to credit policy, indiscriminate use and simultaneous failure to honor debts with the bank must be fought. Steps have been taken to ensure that credit is more selective and difficult to obtain. General and [word indistinct] limits have been set in regard to loan amounts.

Savings and loan interest rates have increased substantially in accordance with inflation and to make savings more attractive and loans more difficult to obtain.

Money costs. Let us say that we arrive at the bank and tell the bank official: Look, I want money to pay wages. In order to obtain money, we must also pay money. So the bank system is going to be strict in this regard. You must pay because the bank must also have a guarantee that it is lending to someone who can return the money. (?You want) more money: the bank lends 300 [currency not specified] and it lends 100 [as heard]. Everthing is fine (?if the money is returned). But you must return it for sure. This is not a matter of just fetching money [words indistinct]. The bank cannot punish like a reform school; so it must be rigorous. There will be no loan where there is no guarantee of reimbursement. There must be a guarantee of reimbursement. We want real guarantees for the banking system [word indistinct], mortgages, everything. (?It has to work).

You don't pay? You don't have money? Too bad. (?Leave everything), house and all, go, (?your property will be converted into money to pay the bank). [passage indistinct] You have not paid? You have no money? Go to the bank with a lawyer. The money was used to construct a house. You did not pay? The bank goes to the construction site, sells the house, and keeps the money. It recovered its money and the house will be for somebody else. It could not be more practical.

All right, let us get to work. We cannot have a society of habitual and [word indistinct] swindlers. [Words indistinct] that is why the bank must always (?make) money. Unfortunately, our central bank does not even have a machine to make notes. It has to buy these notes. Even if it had that machine, it would not be the solution. The banks must function on the basis of their own criteria for credit concession. They must have guarantees that the loan will be returned.

Enterprise subsidies must be ensured by the state budget, but only in very exceptional cases. By turning the metical into a scarce resource, we are seeking to increase the value of our currency and force enterprises to rationalize their expenses in particular.

Economic and financial measures must be accompanied by profound change in work procedures and methods. The result of individual and collective work, defined in an objective and quantitative manner, must become the general criterion for assessing work carried out at various levels. This forces us to provide a clear definition of the contractual obligations of the various structures participating in the economic and social process, particularly economic agents.

These are some of the measures that are prescribed in the economic rehabilitation program. (?Labor laws) received special attention from government structures. We believe these laws will bring about profound changes in work methods. The prescribed economic measures do not exhaust government action, nor are they final. Some have already been formulated; they are concrete work proposals. Other measures will still have to be prepared. Among the measures that have already been prepared is the draft law on national investment which seeks to discipline the investment process and define responsibility.

Land law regulations were also approved. These provide for important mechanisms that will control correct utilization of that precious good: land. [Words indistinct] with regard to geographical situation and the land user. A more objective criterion for rent controls was also defined. This criterion will be based on the material conditions, dimensions, and the site and age of the building as opposed to the landlord's revenue. In other words, the current system of house rents is not correct.

Things are worth what they are worth. A wood and zinc house is not worth the same as a [word indistinct] house. A [word indistinct] house is not worth the same as a luxury residence. This will be the criterion in assessing house value. This criterion is not based on need. We have not yet arrived at the stage where we must provide for the satisfaction of needs through a criterion of necessity.

The criterion is work. The criterion is work, so the house rent criterion is going to be reviewed, so that rents may be in accordance with the real value of the houses and not in accordance with the personal needs of the people and their revenue.

This criterion will affect all new contracts from February onward. Workers with a current rent contract will be given special conditions so that the burden of monthly rent will not substantially increase against their salary. In general terms, these measures seek not to worsen the workers' standard of living. The main objective is to stop the continued deterioration of these conditions observed over the last few years. The absence of appropriate measures could accelerate that deterioration.

Due to our war situation,the proposed economic policy measures are demanded by all selfless Mozambican workers. Resources are scarce, which conditions their correct use from the outset. In addition, all plans regarding resource utilization can be sabotaged through acts of aggression or premeditated destruction by our enemy. This situation demands almost daily communication with the defense and security forces to protect our working places, projects, installations, and communications. The sudden lack of any means of production often forces us to go back and change programs or plans, or even to resort to the use of essential [words indistinct] toward the rapid improvement of our people's standard of living. For this program of action is not just an economic rehabilitation program [words indistinct]. It is of necessity a defense program. This defense is needed for stability and peace, so that we can produce better. We need to produce more and better to improve our ability to defend our independence and sovereignty, our lives and the lives of our children, and to guarantee a better and more prosperous future.

Where there is a will there is a way. We have already shown that when we want something badly enough, we are able to move mountains that were presumed to be unmovable. We are going to carry out our rehabilitation program.

Mr President of the Republic, Mr Chairman of the People's Assembly, Deputies, before presenting the state plan and budget projects for 1987, we will briefly refer to the 1986 plan [word indistinct]. Thus, I hereby ask the chairman of the People's Assembly to let me present the central state plan as well as the state budget plan for 1986.

Preliminary information reminds us that economic activity did not generally decrease in relation to 1985. However, the agrarian sector has continued to show a decreasing trend that was observed in previous years. In fact, we can see that commercial agrarian production in 1986 fell by about 20 percent in relation to 1985. Agrarian trade fell by about 15 percent. Industrial activity increased by 7 percent. Railroad cargo traffic increased by 8 percent and in this context international traffic deserves a special mention because it increased 12 percent. Supplies to the people increased by around 30 percent. The construction, communications, and passenger traffic sectors also show substantial growth.

In general terms economic activity increased in 1986 in relation to 1985, but the planned objectives were not achieved in many sectors, with the exception of industry, construction, and communications, which fulfilled the planned goals.

It was worrying to see that the level of exports fell short of expectations. There was even a drop in this sector in relation to 1985.

The general improvement over 1985 halted the continued and accelerated decline which began in 1982. However, this improvement is not yet the result of the economic rehabilitation program and is mainly because 1985, as a reference year, registered extremely low production levels. Organizational efforts and better supplies guaranteed a better level of activity in 1986 than in 1985. In this context, the railways, industry, especially light industry, and fishing are worthy of mention.

The central state plan for 1987 has proposed production goals representing [word indistinct] growth in relation to 1986. The following goals are envisaged: commercial agrarian production growth of 50 percent; agrarian trade growth of 42 percent; an increase in industrial production by 34 perent; and an increase in railroad traffic by 32 percent. If this growth is realized it will result in people's supplies being improved by 35 percent and a 10 percent increase in exports over 1986.

The proposed goals are within reach and the proposed levels of growth should not appear very high since we are starting from extremely low production levels. Thus, for 1987, we are proposing the marketing of only 40,000 metric tons of corn form commercial and family agricultural production. Of this, 16,500 tons are expected to come from the family sector, which is ridiculous considering that peasant families total over 2 million people. They will be expected to market only 16,500 tons throughout the whole country from Rovuma River to Maputo River. So, this is not asking anything extraordinary of them. Both sectors will also be expected to market 40,000 metric tons of rice; 5,000 tons of beans; 25,000 tons of cotton, half of which is expected to come from the family sector; 29,000 tons of copra, of which 8,500 tons will come from the family sector; and 45,000 tons of cashew nuts. As a matter of fact, our proposed goals are still very low and for this reason they should be considered as the minimum.

To reactivate family sector production and market surplus produce, the 1987 state central plan provides a fund for the marketing of produce worth 3 million contos [one conto equals 1,000 meticals]. This means that we shall have more goods at our disposal to supply to the people and for commercial agriculture. Goods for commercial agriculture should in no case be used for another purpose, while goods meant for supply to the people must only be used as such. A fund for marketing produce is an effort on our part to pay special attention to rural areas. This will demand a greater mobilization of resources for the marketing of produce during 1986-87 campaign, particularly in regard to preparations for the 1987-88 campaign.

With regard to industrial production, the proposed production will be possible only after improving national industry by redirecting available external funds toward obtaining raw materials and spare parts. Our country's economic situation forces us to redirect, as much as possible, donations and loans more toward the upkeep of the national industry and less toward the implementation of development projects.

In the railroad and harbor sector, the proposed goals fundamentally depend on the regular functioning of some railroad lines. The proposed levels do not bring about substantial change in our economic structure. For the 1987 state central plan, our external dependence continues to be very great. That is why the success of our plan depends, unfortunately, on the timely arrival of donations or credits.

We are still unable to introduce severe and rigorous austerity in our foreign exchange expenditure. Laxity and routine have lead us to accept as normal our expenditure on goods or technical assistance [words indistinct]. We must consciously reduce our foreign exchange expenditure or sooner or latter face a dangerous situation in all sectors, including priority sectors.

The scarce external resources at our disposal must as a priority be used in production activity, not including the planned spending in defense, health, and education. As a first step toward this objective, we must, at the level of every province and district, draw up a balance sheet showing what has been received and what has been produced. We must particularly be able at every time to work out the utilization of [word indistinct] for nonproductive and productive use, and with regard to productive use, we should be able to draw up a balance between cost and production.

The 1987 state budget draft [words indistinct]. There is a need to carry out a rigorous austerity with regard to spendings, reduce manpower wherever possible, and carry out maximum austerity in material spendings. Salary improvement for public servants will, apart from [word indistinct], depend on the rationalization of expenditure, particularly the restriction and reduction of manpower, which will favor the quality of workers over quantity.

In the war situation imposed on us, defense and security continues to be the sectors where we must concentrate a significant part of state resources. Our efforts should also be directed toward other fields where we cannot ensure a balanced development in the face of serious economic and financial imbalances. With regard to state revenue, there is a need to [words indistinct].

Mr Chairman of the People's Assembly, Deputies, we have presented the general guidelines of the principal aspects of our economic and financial situation and the principal measures to take in this field. The objectives that we propose to achieve will only be achieved if we are able to review our working methods and give priority to the need to overcome apathy and defeatism. The objectives that we intend to achieve will demand a change from the consumption mentality which predominates today in favor of a productive mentality. There is a need to transform attitudes to find solutions to our problems and systematically end our resorting to foreign aid. The objectives will demand an intensification of our individual effort and perseverance at all levels to end the present attitude of waiting for our solutions to come from heaven.

We must change our working methods, end laxity and mechanical performance by judging work against results. Each one will be judged by his commitment to the cause of revolution. In our drive to increase production and rehabilitate our economy, we must use all material and human resources at our disposal and involve all economic agents from the simple producer — the family peasant producer — to the largest enterprise. The measures that have been intitiated and others being planned have an objective and concrete nature that will facilitate the creation of objective conditions which, in our country's particular situation, are essential to improve our economy.

Once again it is necessary to carry out tasks, increase accountability at all levels, and translate our concrete guidelines into simple tasks so that all citizens can render their contribution in this program of economic recovery. There is a need to renew our hope and confidence and to believe in the immense potential and creative ability of our people. It is extremely important that we create conditions that will enable the working class to carry out organized work. The tasks ahead of us are difficult but we must carry them out [words indistinct]. The good preparation of the 1987-88 campaign is the secret for the beginning of success in economic rehabilitation. Thank you very much, Mr Chairman, thank you very much, Deputies. The struggle continues. [applause]

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Not To Withhold Minerals From U.S.

MB181625 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Excerpts] A former United States ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Andrew Young, has defended America's decision to exempt 10 South African produced strategic minerals from an import ban introduced last year under sanctions legislation. [passage omitted] Mr Young, who is on a 3-day visit to Zimbabwe, was answering questions about the lifting of the ban on the 10 minerals announced in Washington yesterday. [passage omitted]

In the meantime, the director general of mineral and energy affairs, Dr Louw Alberts, has made it clear that the government has no intention of withholding supplies of strategic minerals to the United States in retaliation for sanctions.

'Most' Of Closed Soweto, Cape Schools Reopen

MB201017 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0959 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 20 SAPA — Most of the 73 schools closed by the government in Soweto, the Eastern Cape and Durban last year have re-opened, Mr Job Schoeman, chief liaison officer for the Department of Education and Training [DET], said in Pretoria today. Mr Schoeman said the DET expected the remaining ones to re-open "by the latest" next Monday.

Of the 60 schools closed in the Eastern Cape, "constisting of 50-50 secondary and high", 42 started last week. He said "at least" five of the 10 high schools closed in Soweto had resumed and the rest were expected to open next Monday.

The two closed on the East Rand would also open next Monday, Mr Schoeman said. The Lamont High, near Durban, had re-opened. He said since the closure of the 73 schools, the DET had appealed to parents — not pupils — to decide on whether they wanted the schools to re-open.

"We wanted to get the parents involved at each individual school. It is not the pupils who must decide, but the parents." Mr Schoeman said the parents at each individual school had decided "almost unanimously" they wanted the schools opened.

He said the DET had laid down conditions, one of which was that parents agreed to take the responsibility for the "behavior and attendance" of their children. "There was an almost unanimous decision that they would undertake to do this," Mr Schoeman said.

ANC President Tambo Discusses Nation's Future

EA192046 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Compatriots, as our struggle for freedom intensifies and reaches a higher level and as we move closer and closer to our cherished goal of a free and democratic motherland, it has become very important for us to once again explain the real kind of the society we are fighting to establish. It is also important because some circles are already trying to propose their kind of solution to the problems of our country. They are beginning to define freedom and liberty for us. They want to impose on us solutions which suit their own selfish interests. It was because of this development that the National Executive Committee of the ANC in its new year message on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of our movement once again addressed these issues. In delivering the message of our national leadership, President Oliver Tambo stressed first and foremost that the people shall govern.

[Begin Tambo recording] We reaffirm that in the new South Africa the people, all the people shall govern. We shall together translate that fundamental democratic principle into the practice whereby each person shall have the right to vote and to be voted to any elective organ in the new united and non-racial South Africa. For us, it is of a special importance that that new reality should reinforce and entrench what we are accomplishing now in struggle; namely, the building of a nation of South Africa. It must reflect and enhance our oneness, breaking down the terrible and destructive idea and practice of defining our people by race, color, or ethnic group. The resolution will guarantee the individual an equal right of all South Africans without regard to any of these categories and include such freedoms as those of speech, assembly, association, language, religion, respect, the inviolability of family life and freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention without trial.

For all this, the victorious revolution demands we must ensure our [word indistinct] democratic strategy for its own success. It imposes the obligation that all should be free to form and join any party of their choice without loss or hindrance. But as a people and a movement, we must state it clearly that democracy in our country cannot succeed if it permits the organized propagation of ideas of fascism and ethnicity. Apart from our own experience, we cannot in the name of democracy tolerate the organized sustenance of conceptions which led to the Second World War and which have since been categorized and dealt with as a crime against humanity.

Of central importance also is the critical requirement that a new South Africa must guarantee the masses of our people freedom from hunger, disease, ignorance, homelessness and poverty. The democratic state with the representatives of all the people of our country and especially the ordinary working people, [words indistinct] and with that in mind [words indistinct]. They can therefore be called upon to ensure that the wealth of the country increases significantly and continuously and that it is shared equitably by all the people to ensure their material and spiritual upliftment and well-being. To achieve these objectives, the new democratic order will necessarily have to address the question of the ownership, control and direction of the economy as a whole to ensure that neither the public nor the private sectors swallow the means of enriching the few at the expense of the majority. The transfer of power to the people must therefore be accompanied by the democratization of control and direction of the economy so that indeed the people share in the wealth of our country for the common good. [end recording] [passage omitted]

ANC Announces Plans for 'People's Militia'

MB191501 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] The ANC has announced it plans to create people's militia units in areas under its control after the Pretoria government's structures are destroyed. The ANC said control in black areas is practically in the hands of residents after the creation of people's committees with political and administrative powers. An ANC spokesman said the units of the people's militia which will be created will be charged with defending the people's committees and maintaining order in the areas under people's control.

Pik Botha: Machel Inquiry 'Completely Independent'

MB181705 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1658 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 18, SAPA — The minister of foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said in Pretoria today that anybody with information on the cause of the Machel air disaster was welcome to testify at the commission of inquiry. He emphasized in a statement that the commission, chaired by Mr Justice Cecil Margo and which includes three foreign experts, was completely independent.

"Any person, institution or government which may have any information at their disposal which may shed light on the cause of the accident will be welcome to testify and by doing so assist the commission of inquiry to arrive at a conclusion," Mr Botha said. The commission will start its proceedings on Tuesday in Johannesburg.

'No Question' of Sabotage

MB201052 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1022 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 20 SAPA — Counsel addressing the inquiry into the plane crash that killed Mozambique President Samora Machel said there was no question of sabotage or an explosion causing the crash.

Delivering a synopsis before the six-man commission of inquiry in Johannesburg, Mr C E Puckrin, said the Tupolev 134A continued flying until it hit the ground near Mbuzini near Komatipoort.

It was common cause, he said, "that there is no question of sabotage" or explosion.

Autopsies on the crew would reveal that they were not debilitated in any way by alcohol or drugs.

Mr Puckrin said there was "a clear misunderstanding between the Maputan air traffic controller and the aircraft's radio operator.

He referred to rumours surrounding the crash on October 19 last year. It was natural rumour should abound, but the six experts were concerned only with the facts.

"I believe that the evidence and the facts which you will hear will dispell the rumours."

He called the first witness, Mr Renier van Zyl, director of aviation safety in the Department of Civil Aviation.

The VIP presidential flight was travelling from Lusaka to Maputo. Of the 44 people aboard 34 died including President Machel, 53.

Mr van Zyl recounted the aircraft's last moments as set out in the factual report agreed to and signed by South Africa, Mozambique and the Soviet Union last Friday.

The estimated time of arrival in Maputo was 19H25. The Aerodrome Flight Information Service (AFIS) in Maputo reported no delay was expected.

The crew was instructed to report to AFIS at 3000 feet or when they saw the runway.

The plane maintained course with minor lateral deviations of four to six kilometres. A change of heading (direction), confirmed by South African Defence Force radar was not shown on a Mozambique defence radar plot.

Moments before the plane crashed, the pilot told the crew "there is no Maputo."

Mr van Zyl recounted the crews final exchange with the ground staff.

At 19H18 and 24 seconds, the Tupolev reached 3000 ft. It was cleared for an approach by Instrument Landing System (ILS). The radio operator said the ILS system on the plane was out of service. Maputo cleared the plane for a visual approach, and the pilot remarked "that something was wrong," Mr van Zyl said. The navigator said the runway was unlit.

Asked by the radio operator to check the runway lights, AFIS acknowledged and cleared the plane for approach.

Moments before a warning light indicated the ground was too close, the radio operator again asked AFIS to check the runway lights.

AFIS cleared the plane for a visual approach. The radio operator repeated his request and AFIS once more cleared the plane.

The pilot complained that it was cloudy.

The final words of the cockpit voice recorder were those of the pilot.

"No ILS. No NDB (non-directional beacons) and nowhere to go."

The crew maintained radio communication with AFIS Maputo until the moment of impact.

Mr van Zyl said all survivors interviewed "confirmed that the aircraft was operating normally before impact."

No Alchohol in Pilots

MB201148 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1141 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 20 SAPA — The pilot and co-pilot of the presidential plane transporting President Samora Machel and Frelimo officials to Mozambique showed no sign of alocohol or any other untoward substance in their blood, Mr Renier van Zyl, director of aviation safety for the Department of Transport in South Afriaca, told the Machel board of inqury today. This was the post-mortem finding of the medico-legal examination on the bodies of four flight crew members and on three passengers conducted by a South African state pathologist. The navigator and radio operator showed signs of alcohol in their blood specimens. The navigators blood alcohol content was 001gms per 100ml and the radio operators blood alcohol was 0.02gms per 100ml.

The medical expert said, however, the alcohol concentration may have been the result of endegenous ethanal formation due to decomposition changes. They said that all the flight-crew members were in a good state of health and according to their physical conditions were able to cope with normal functional duties during the particular flight. The causes of the deaths of the three [as received] passengers were multiple injuries.

Defense Minister Malan on SADF Role in Namibia

MB171601 Johannesburg Television Service
in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Interview with Defense Minister General Magnus Malan by Louis de Villiers on the "Network" program presented by Riaan Cruywagen; date,place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Cruywagen] Members of the House of Representatives early this week returned from a visit to South-West Africa's northern border area. It was the first time that colored parliamentarians had visited defense force members on the border. Louis de Villiers compiled this report:

[Begin video recording][passage omitted][De Villiers] More than 40 members of the House of Representatives were included in this first visit to the border by colored parliamentarians. [passage omitted] The government's view is that the colored house will have to decide for itself on colored people doing national service. Defense Minister Magnus Malan believes it is important that all parliamentarians who have to approve the budget first gain direct experience by seeing how the money is spent by the government.

[Malan] I am very happy about this visit, and I must tell you that the feedback I have had from these members of parliament has been particularly encouraging. All of them are very positive. No one expected that the situation up here was quite like this, and no one realized that there is so much work to be done here, helping people to help themselves, as they have now seen and experienced here with the Bushman Batallion. [passage omitted]

[De Villiers] What is the situation at present in South-West Africa and the rest of the subcontinent from the South African perspective?

[Malan] When one speaks about security in the subcontinent — in other words, southern Africa — then the first question, the first thing that strikes one, is what are the Soviets doing here? What are the Marxists doing here in this continent? It is far from their country. One has to go back a few years to when the Soviets themselves spoke of their fight against capitalism; that is, the fight between the East and the West. The Soviets said they must control the two treasure chests of the world. One is the energy treasure chest of the Middle East, and that is why we have those tremendous problems there at present. The second is the mineral treasure chest, which means southern Africa. That is where the West, in particular, is dependent on certain strategic minerals. It is why the Soviets and the Marxists are deeply involved in the actions taken here in southern Africa. Now, you, should think in terms of the progress they have made in the past 10 to 15 years. With their influence and with certain terrorist organizations they overpowered the Portuguese in Angola and Mozambique. They overpowered the govermment in Zimbabwe. Their next objective and actions were aimed at South-West Africa, with the ultimate objective being the Republic of South Africa. The reason we are in South-West Africa is to halt the Soviets, the communists, the Marxists who are in control of SWAPO and to stop them from infiltrating further south.

[De Villiers] The concept of a total onslaught causes widely differing reactions. Can one still in reality talk about such a total onslaught?

[Malan] It depends on what one means by the concept of a total onslaught. A total onslaught, according to my understanding, means the enemy is attacking you on various levels. There is the military action taken by the ANC and SWAPO against South Africa, and then there is the economic war waged against this country at the international level. So the war is taking place in various fields. One could also mention the propaganda campaign, particularly at the United Nations and in certain countries overseas. In other words, it means a coordinated attack at various levels, with varying degrees of intensity. It may not be coordinated. The East and the West may not be deliberatly conducting these activities simultaneously, but by coincidence they are taking place at the same time. The overall purpose is to overthrow the political structure, the constitutional structure of the Republic of South Africa.

[De Villiers] With the general election coming up, will the issue of state security loom large in the election campaign? Is that what you would want?

[Malan] No, we should never allow the issue of state security to descend to the level of party politics. For the ordinary person on the street, the issue of state security is a very important factor that needs no definition. In other words, party politics cannot be used to undermine the safety of the Republic of South Africa. Accordingly, we should not allow the issue of state security to dominate the political debate. Party politics should not dominate the future of our country.

[De Villiers] General, is South-West Africa so important? What are the concerns of the SADF here?

[Malan] If we pulled out of South-West Africa tomorrow, it would mean that we had given the Communist-Marxist SWAPO opportunity to take over South-West Africa by military force. It would mean the red flag would have won and the communist flag would fly above Windhoek. It would also mean that this whole region would follow the socialist path of Angola, Mozambique, and so on. It would also mean that the communist threat will have been brought closer to South Africa by 1,500 km. In other words the border would no longer be the Cunene River, but the Orange River. In the eyes of the world, we would be regarded as a country that could not solve its security problems satisfactorily. We would be regarded as cowards that ran away. Furthermore, it would also mean that we would lost our influence over Angola and Zambia since we would have lost contact with them. It would also mean that Botswana would turn communist and that basically means that the communist threat would be right at our doorstep in the Transvaal. Apart from that, it would also mean tht we had surrendered the security initiative to the enemy, and then it would be the enemy who decides when and where they wish to attack, rather than the present situation where we take action in Angola, in their own territory, when it suits us, and when we want to do it. We have to ask ourselves: If we retreat to the Orange River, where are we going to make our stand in the future? When the threat arises there, are we going to make our stand at the Hex River, or where? [end video recording]

Van Der Merwe Urges Interracial Communication

MB161957 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1946 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 16, SAPA — Deputy minister of information, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, has urged white South Africans to start communicating with their black countrymen. We should put it on our agenda to learn more about our black fellowmen and their culture, he said. Dr van de Merwe was addresing the Public Relations Institute of South Africa function in Pretoria today.

He said he was ashamed to admit he could make intelligent commentary about the relationship between South Africa and the United States, but could not say the same about for example, the Afrikaner and the Sotho, because he could not speak an African language. Apartheid had led to the idea that there should be a division between population groups, he said. The policy, however, did not bear the fruits which the policy makers of the time intended.

There is a different model now. There must now be co-operation within the boundaries of one state. This creates a different need than that of 10 years ago when there was no need to develop communications across cultural boundaries, he said. This was now of prime importance, he added.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB161658 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English
16-22 Jan 87 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Text] Guerrilla Attacks

A total of 228 guerrilla attacks occurred during the first 11 months of last year, compared with 136 for the whole of 1985 and 44 in 1984, according to Pretoria University's Institute of Strategic Studies.

The head of the Institute, Professor Mike Hough, said that between January and November last year police had killed or captured 160 alleged ANC guerrillas. He said two people had been killed and a small number inured in attacks during December 1986, compared with 12 people killed and 53 injured in December 1985.

Matric Results

Of the 89,235 black full-time matric candidates under the Department of Education and Training, 51.99 percent passed their final exams. Of these, 13.07 percent passed with matric exemption, 33 candidates passed with distinctions in two or more subjects and two candidates achieved A aggregates.

Of coloured Department of Education and Culture candidates, 67.6 percent passed and 15.3 percent gained matric exemption. There were 11,359 Indian Department of Education and Culture matric candidates; 85.98 percent passed, with 33.3 percent achieving matric exemption. Out of all white Transvaal Education Department matric candidates, 92.1 passed — with 43.2 percent gaining matric exemptions.

Education Expenditure

According to the South African Institute of Race Relations [SAIRR] 1985 Survey, the breakdown of education expenditure during the 1985/86 financial year was as follows:

African education in white designated areas: R917,486,000

Education in non-"independent homelands": R498,275,133

Education in "independent homelands": R526,788,180

Coloured education: R724,065,000

White education: R2,973,697,000

Department of National Education: R4,872,000.

According to the SAIRR, per capita expenditure by the state during 1984/85 on pupils of different groups was as follows (including capital expenditure):

African (in white areas and non-"independent homelands"): R293.86

Coloured: R708.32

Indian: R1,182.00

White: R1,926.00

According to these figures, per capita education expenditure on whites is 6.22 times that on blacks.

Per capita expenditure on education by the homelands ranged between R135.97 in Lebowa and R252.00 in Venda.

Teacher Pupil Ratios

According to the SAIRR annual survey, the pupil/teacher ratios in the white areas were as follows:

African — 41.2 to 1; coloured — 25.4 to 1; Indian — 22.5 to 1; white — 18.7 to 1.

In the "independent homelands", the ratio was as follows: Bophuthatswana — 42 to 1 (primary), 37 to 1 (secondary); Ciskei — 45 to 1 (primary), 32 to 1 (secondary); venda — 38 to 1 (primary), 25 to 1 (secondary); Transkei — 67 to 1 (primary), 23 to 1 (secondary).

Housing Expenditure

The SAIRR survey says the government's expenditure in 1985/6 was as follows:

African: R42,505,000

Coloured: R97,467,000

Indian: R53,797,000

White: R54,358,000

Department of Public Works and Land Affairs: R244,689,000.

Prisoner of Conscience

Rev Makhenkesi Arnold Stofile, 42, UDF Border secretary general, was detained under section 26 of the Ciskei National Security Act on October 17 last year and is still being held.

Stofile, an ordained minister of the Presbytarian church and a lecturer in Systematic Theology at Fort Hare University first became politically active thorugh his involvment in the church and in sporting circles. In the late 60s and early 70s he was a top rugby player, captaining the Border side and representing his province at scrumhalf and wing. He was later elected president of the Victoria East Rugby Union and to the executive of the Victoria East Council of Sport. In 1984, Stofile represented the UDF in New Zealand where he played a prominent role in the successful campaign against the All Black tour. He was detained for four months last year, shortly after returning from New Zealand.

For the past three years Stofile has served as the Border UDF secretary general and has been a member of the UDF national executive committee. He is also a member of the NECC [National Education Crisis Committee] education committee.

In December last year Stofile and five others were charged with "harbouring terrorists". He was refused bail.

Stofile is married and has three children.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

Skotaville's Dairy of Liberation (Skotaville, Johannesburg); Antiapartheid News — October and November 1986 (Anti-Apartheid Movement); Socialist Worker Review — November 1986, issue 92 (note stated); Socialist Worker no 1010 October 25 1986 (Bookmarks, London — banned for all future editions); International Viewpoint issue 109 November 1986 (Presse-Edition-Communication, France); Zimbabwe News — vol 17 no 11, November 1986 (Jongwe Printing and Publishing Co, Harare) and FND [Expansion unknown] Magazine 2de jaargang [volume] no 13 November 22 1986 (FNV [expansion unknown] Pers, Amsterdam).

Unbanned:

Shooting at Sharpeville (Bishop Ambrose Reeves); Gravity's Rainbow (Thomas Pynchon), Karl Marx's Theory of Revolution — part one (Hal Draper) and Essential Works of Lenin (Hendry M Chrisman, ed — unbanned for possession but still banned for distribution and importation).

— In an earlier Barometer, it was stated that Morice Smithers was coordinator of the JODAC [Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee] education committee. In fact, he is an ordinary member of that committee.

Information Bureau Issues 17 Jan Unrest Report

MB170629 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0627 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 17 SAPA — The following is the unrest report, for the period 0001 to 2400 yesterday, from the Bureau for Information in Pretoria:

"A young black boy (9 years) was slightly wounded in the shoulder when a group of radicals opened fire on a security force vehicle.

"No-one has thus far been arrested.

"Other reported unrest related incidents comprised isolated cases of stoning.

"Minimal damage was caused and to date, no arrests have been made."

18 Jan Unrest Report

MB180712 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0709 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 18 SAPA — The following is the unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 yesterday, from the Bureau for Information, Pretoria:

"Isolated unrest related incidents, mainly stone throwing and arson, were reported from only four SAP districts during the above period. The majority of these occurred in Soweto.

"Damage caused was minimal and no-one was injured or arrested."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

17 Jan Press Review

MB170452 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN on Unfair Western Criticism

"There is a strange lack of criticism overseas of the way in which Black African countries run their own affairs — and the way they lie about South Africa," Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 16 January says in a page 6 editorial. "Besides misreading the nature of the Black regimes it accepts without question, the West blames South Africa for all the trouble in the sub-continent. We are accused of destabilising our neighbours; our neighbours are never accused of doing anything bad in relation to one another." Although Zambian President Kaunda recently confirmed that Mozambique and Zimbabwe had indeed sought to overthrow the government of Malawian President Banda, a claim which Mozambique and Zimbabwe had denied when it was made by South Africa, it is doubtful whether Western countries will react. "Their only interest seems to be in blackguarding and punishing South Africa; they do not give a damn about what goes on elsewhere in the subcontinent."

STAR on Lack of Confidence

An editorial on page 8 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 16 Janaury notes that "under normal circumstances," the high price of gold and the rand's strength against the dollar "would generate an above-average economic growth, in the process easing the unemployment problem, taking the steam out of inflation and reducing the crippling tax burden." However, "none of these benefits has materialised. The economic upturn is sluggish, inflation refuses to back off and unemployment remains one of the principal motors of social unrest. What's gone wrong is that despite most of the ingredients for economic growth being present, the most important ingredient — confidence — is conspicuously absent."

Confusion Over Sanctions Legislation

In a column on the same page, Chris Moerdyk discusses the confusion existing over U.S. sanctions legislation. Although many believe that disinvestment by U.S. firms is the result of the Antiapatheid Act, in fact "so-called withdrawals by U.S. corporations from South Africa, completely or partially through local management buy-outs, have come about not through U.S. legislation but independent decisions based on economic and political pressure. Most have simply succumbed to demands from their American customers and have decided that dumping the South African market is better than losing business back home. In fact, the only reference to the disinvestment issue in the Anti-Apartheid Act is a policy statement actually praising U.S. firms that have remained in South Africa."

BUSINESS DAY on Sullivan Code

"In the 10 years since the Sullivan Principles were launched, U.S. companies operating in South Africa have adopted an activist stand on political policy probably unparalleled for multinationals in foreign country," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 16 October says in a page 4 editorial. "To many, it appears that American corporate disisnvestment has brought that era to a close." "Disinvestment and other sanctions have resulted in the loss of a benign presence in this country, and increased political polarisation. Slightly fewer people than before believe in gentle persuasion. South African companies, for their part, have fewer examples to follow, and are under less pressure to adopt non-discriminatory labour practices."

BUSINESS DAY on OK Strike

"Despite widespread public interest in the issue, the strike at OK Bazaars is, or at least should be, a totally normal function of our economy," *Business Day* says in a second editorial on the same page. However, the ANC "has claimed responsibility for the attempt to bomb the OK into submission," while "there have been wholesale arrests of peaceful picketers, many of whom have been charged in terms of obsolete municipal by-laws. Both types of intimidation by outsiders are a double-edged sword. The OK and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Worker's Union will eventually resolve this dispute. Until then they should be left alone to play it by civilised rules."

U.S. Withdrawals Affecting Social Programs

"America's corporate run from SA is having a terminal effect on many social programmes aimed at improving the lot of the black community. It is also likely to persuade more blacks that big business is , at best, a faint-hearted ally in the battle for political reform," says a column by Hamish McIndoe on the same page. "Many divested companies have left a trail of unfinished community and welfare projects but continue to allow their products to be sold in SA; an action that has infuriated many blacks." South African social scientist Lawrence Schlemmer notes: "'Threat of higher unemployment will make some blacks more intensely opposed to disinvestment. The better-educated and opinion-formers will support disinvestment and sanctions as publicity mounts.'"

CAPE TIMES: Economic Fortunes Tied to Political Problems

Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 15 January, in a page 6 editorial, remarks on the optimism of Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard de Kock, whose "current perception that the economy is now in the strongest position in three years ... seems to be stretching a point ...." "Unfortunately, our political problems have worsened by the month and that in turn has savaged our economic prospects." "Unless the Governor knows something we don't about political developments in the offing, it would appear that our economic problems are likely to remain with us for quite some time to come."

Media Curbs During Elections

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper notes Deputy Minister of Information Stoffel van der Merwe's acknowledgement "that if the emergency restrictions hinder campaigning" in this year's elections "the government would have a further look at them. We hope the point is taken very early in the campaign that a major adjustment, in advance, is not only desirable but essential. Either the elections are held in impossibly unfair conditions or they are freed of the censorship shackles." "The government still has time to avert a nasty situation, in which it is accused of blatant unfairness to its political opponents, and in which newspapers find themselves, in equity, forced to ignore the charms of the censors."

SOWETAN: No Rest for Emigrants

Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 16 January, in a page 6 editorial, notes: "We are not surprised by reports that some 382 South African immigrants have fled to Australia, a country that seems to have similar racist tendencies to South Africa." White South Africans "believe they know where to run to live their privileged lives." "As bad habits die hard they either thought of returning to their own country or looked to other lands, such as Australia, where they think the white man will be boss forever." "Those of us who are stuck with our troubles should learn that it is important to make this country the best in the world. This is not impossible. There are too many people of goodwill."

CITY PRESS: More Repression During Elections

"Our people can brace themselves for a season of even greater government repression once the general election campaign for whites starts rolling," claims Johannesburg *City Press* in English for 18 Janaury [as published] in a page 2 editorial. "This government has an appalling record of clamping down on blacks and catching votes under the flimsy excuse of 'maintaining law and order.'" "The well-orchestrated gags on the press... means that the security police can go on a spree without South Africans and the world knowing about it." "More than ever before, men and women of vision are going to have to emerge from our communities if the tide is going to be turned around."

18 Jan Press Review

MB180421 [Editorial Report]

STAR Editor on Fighting Censorship

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 17 January carries on page 10 an "edited version" of a speech delivered by Harvey Tyson, editor of *The Star*, to a conference on censorship being held by the World Press Freedom Committee in London in which Tyson outlines five "rules" for fighting censorship: "The first rule in combatting censorship is to survive. All of us are occasionally tempted to take the easy and gratifying route of defiance and martyrdom for the cause of a free Press. But such simplistic heroics result only in closure — followed by the silence of the dead and the total triumph of those who seek to black out news. The second rule is to try, I repeat try, to remain within the law. Once you deliberately defy the law you destroy your own operating base, as well as the foundation on which Press freedom is built." "The third rule is to insist that every reporter continues to report to his newspaper regardless of all censorship laws. This is to ensure that there is no self-censorship." "The fourth rule is never to acquiesce to censorship, but to test every Draconian clause to its limit." The fifth rule is that "not only must the newspaper have the will to fight censorship to the death, it must seek and deserve the support of its readers in doing so. It must try to maintain accurate, balanced reporting even when political conflict seeks to deny it this right."

WEEKLY MAIL: ANC Vision of Society

In an article on page 14 of Johannesburg *The Weekly Mail* in English for 16-22 January, Howard Barrell writes that the kind of society the ANC would create if it achieved power would depend to a great extent on how it achieved power. "A revolutionary victory after a protracted, bloody and bitter struggle of the kind waged in Vietnam would, at the end of the day, mean an ANC with a far less benign face than it is trying to project today." Lancaster House-style negotiations, on the other hand, "would probably mean a gradual transoformation of South African society — though the pace would probably be much faster than in Zimbabwe." If the "impossible" were to happen and the ANC was allowed to participate in an election tomorrow, "its party manifesto would revolve around: majoritarian parliamentary democracy in a unitary state structure; one person, one vote; individually guaranteed human rights, actionable in the courts; the direction of the vast bult of the state's energies towards re-allocating resources towards black political, social and economic advancement; a non-aligned foreign policy, with membership of the Organisation of African Unity; and a whole lot of people going around calling each other comrade." However, "it is a measure of present South African Society that to achieve this would probably require little less than a revolution."

ZAMBIA

Government Signs Deal on Oil Exploitation

MB161715 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 16 Jan 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Hopes are rising that Zambia might eventually be producing its own oil. Some prospecting has already been going on. Now the government has signed a multimillion dollar oil exploration deal with the American-based Mobil Oil company. From Lusaka, John Lukella reports:

[Lukella] The agreement worth $26 million was signed in Lusaka by Pickson Chitambala, Zambia's new minister of mines, and representatives of Mobil Oil. In addition, the parties will create a new company to oversee this exploration drive. The company shall be known as Mobil Oil Explorations Zambia Incorporated.

The 38,000 square km area has been earmarked for exploration in Zambia's Luangwa valley, part of the great African Rift Valley which stretches for thousands of kilometers. It separates the East African plateau from the Central African plateau and contains a string of long, narrow, deep lakes of which the largest are Lake Tanganyika and Lake Malawi. But this is not all there is to Zambia's new drive to strike black gold: another United States-based oil company, (?Placid Oil), has carried out oil exploration in Zambia's Eastern and Western Provinces since last July. (?Placid), though, is due to start active drilling in the Chama area of Zambia's Eastern Province in March.

In the event of a commercial discovery, which according to informed sources here seems very likely, the Zambian Government will receive income tax and royalties with an option of acquiring shares in the new venture.

On the whole, the decision by (Placid) to go ahead with actual drilling and the new agreemetn between Mobil and the Zambian Government is being seen here as a positive sign of Zambia's oil production potential.

Figures on Angolan, Mozambican Refugees Updated

MB191153 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] From Lusaka comes the news that about 13,000 Angolan refugees have arrived in Zambia after heavy fighting between MPLA troops and UNITA forces. A week ago, a Zambian official in charge of the Eastern Province reported that the number of Mozambicans fleeing into Zambia to escape the fighting between Renamo and government forces in Mozambique had risen to more than 23,000 in a month.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Leads Delegation to PRC, DPRK, India

MB180548 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, left Harare this morning at the head of a high-powered delegation to the PRC. *The Sunday Mail* quotes a Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman as saying from China Comrade Mugabe will proceed to Pyongyang for a 2-day official visit to the DPRK. Comrade Mugabe and his delegation will then travel to India to attend a summit meeting of the Africa Fund Committee, which is scheduled to take place next week. The fund, the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism, and Apartheid, was established by the heads of state and government of the Nonaligned Movement at their eighth summit held in Harare last year. India holds the chairmanship of the fund, while Zambia holds its vice-chairmanship.

Mugabe Arrives in Beijing

For PRC media coverage of the visit of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to the People's Republic of China, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 20 January China *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Mugabe on Sanctions Delay

MB181307 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1020 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Harare, Jan 18, SAPA — Sanctions against South Africa by southern African nations had deliberately been postponed because of the need for cooperation among some of the Frontline States, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe, said in an interview released today. ZIANA the semi-official news agency reports that the sanctions package, largely engineered by Zimbabwe and Zambia, was due to come into effect towards the end of last year. Mozambique was also highly influential in seeking Frontline States' unity and it was on returning home from one such mission in Zambia that President Samora Machel died in a plane crash last year. "We have had to postpone them deliberately in order for us to consult with the other front line states because some of the sanctions require their cooperation.

"And this is why we postponed them," said the prime minister.

He went on: "But they are coming and coming very soon, that is, from our side.

"Sanctions, yes, are necessary against South Africa and they need the cooperation of all of us and where the southern African states can implement sanctions, and our hope is that they can in some cases," said Mr Mugabe in the interview held on Friday with a *Press Trust of India* correspondent.

The interview was released to ZIANA shortly after Mr Mugabe left on a visit to China, Korea and India where, in New Delhi, he is to attend a meeting of the Africa Fund set up by the summit in September of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), of which he is chairman.

Security Operations Successful Against 'Bandits'

MB190840 Harare THE HERALD in English 8 Jan 87 p 1

[By Oliver Gawe]

[Text] Security forces have continued to score successes against bandits, resulting in a marked decrease in bandit activity last year, the police staff officer responsible for security, Chief Superintendent Spencer Tigere, said yesterday.

Chief Supt Tigere told *The Herald* in an interview that operations indicated that morale was still low among the bandits with most gangs choosing to maintain a low profile.

He said during 1986, 68 bandits were killed while another 15 were captured by security forces compared with 75 killed and 85 captured in 1985.

The number of bandits killed and captured last year was lower than the previous year mainly because the bandits had chosen to keep a low profile as a result of intensified patrols and deployment by the security forces, he said.

During the whole of last year bandits killed 116 civilians compared with 156 the previous year, he said, adding that 19 civilians were abducted as opposed to 51 during 1985.

Last year only nine schoolchildren were abducted from schools in Matabeleland into a neighbouring country compared with 269 in 1985.

Chief Supt Tigere said bandits carried out 210 armed robberies stealing goods worth $46,671.25 during the period.

There were 1,073 sightings during the year — a 50 percent decline compared with 1985.

The number of women raped by bandits decreased from 104 in 1985 to 74 last year while there were 178 contacts between security forces and bandits, he said.

Bandits destroyed property worth thousands of dollars during the year.

Tourism Agreement Signed With Bulgaria

MB181914 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] A leading Bulgarian delegation, which is being led by the Bulgarian deputy prime minister, Comrade Georgi Karamenev, has concluded its week-long visit to Zimbabwe by signing the fourth agreement of cooperation in the field of tourism between the two countries. The agreement is part of a joint venture of cooperation in the fields of agriculture, mining, and other (?agreed meaningful discussions) which were held between the two countries in the past week. The agreement was signed by the minister of tourism, Comrade Victoria Chitepo, and the Bulgarian minister of finance, Comrade Belcho Belchev.

Comrade Chitepo said Zimbabwe hopes to benefit from the long experience of her counterpart in the field of state-owned tourism industry in such areas as training and marketing information, as well as other vital tourist areas.